

MARY LOUISA DUNCAN PUTNAM

WILLIAM CLEMENT PUTNAM

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For

Mr. and Mrs. Blatchford

with the kindest regards

Elizabeth D. Putnam

April 5-1907.



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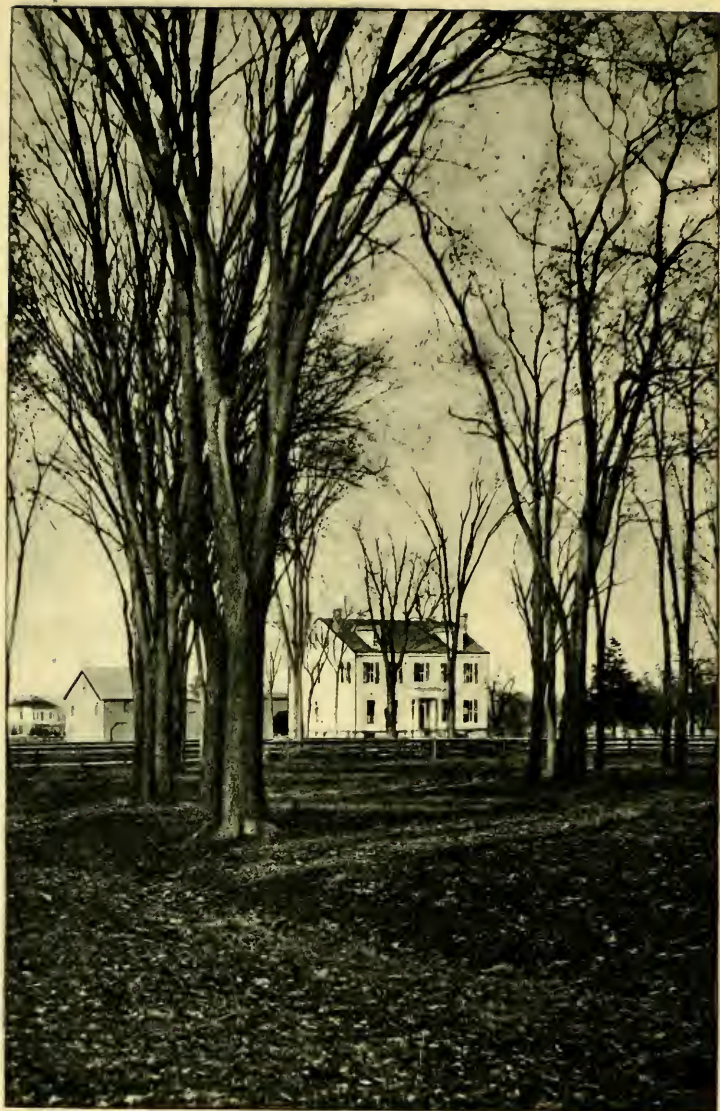
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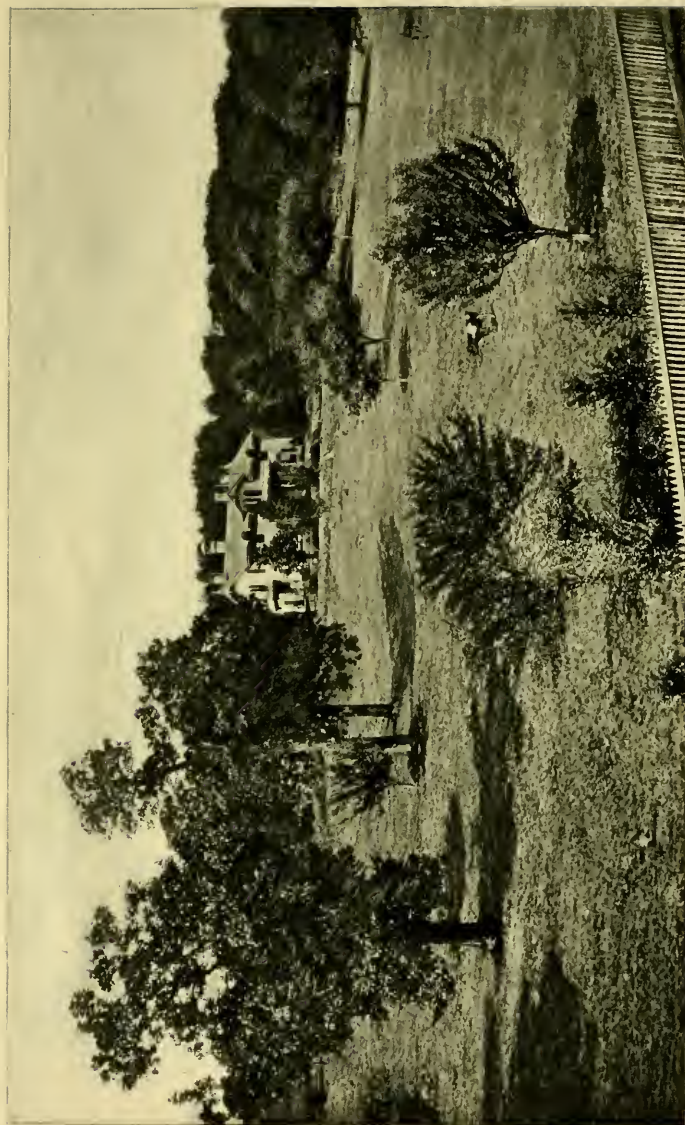
Mary L. D. Putnam



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"ELM GROVE."



PHOTOGRAPH BY E. COLAR, CO. NY

"WOODLAWN."

MARY LOUISA DUNCAN PUTNAM

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A MEMOIR.

BY ELIZABETH DUNCAN PUTNAM.

MARY LOUISA DUNCAN was born on September 23rd, 1832, in Greencastle, Pennsylvania. She was the second child and eldest daughter of Joseph Duncan and Elizabeth Caldwell Smith. The family home was in Illinois, but Mr. Duncan was in Congress from 1826 to 1834. When the epidemic of cholera broke out in Washington in 1832 Mrs. Duncan sought refuge in Greencastle, where some Scotch cousins lived. Shortly after the birth of their daughter Mr. and Mrs. Duncan returned to Washington, D. C., their home for the next two years.

Both heredity and environment had a marked influence on the life of Mary Duncan. She was descended on both sides from Scotch and Huguenot ancestors.

Her father was the son of Major Joseph Duncan of Virginia, who in 1790 moved to Paris, Kentucky. The handsome stone house that he built still stands on the old square in Paris. Here his son Joseph was born in 1794. Major Duncan died in 1806, leaving a widow and six children. Joseph was the third son, but when he was twenty-one he was appointed guardian for his younger brothers. When the war of 1812 broke out he enlisted as an ensign. He was a man of great physical strength and bravery, and these qualities were often severely tested during the war. One time he was the bearer of dispatches to the Army of the Northwest and was obliged to go through the trackless forests, where he had many narrow escapes, as the Indians were friendly to the English. He aided in the defense of Fort Stephenson, at Lower Sandusky, now Fremont, Ohio, in 1813. Orders had previously come from General Harrison to Major Croghan, the commanding officer, to abandon the fort. A council of war was called,

and Duncan, as the youngest officer, was first asked to express his opinion. He answered decidedly in favor of defending the fort, "the order to the contrary notwithstanding." The majority were of like mind, and the small band of one hundred and forty men held the fort against several thousand British and Indians. The officers were court-martialed for disobeying orders, but were acquitted; and in 1834, Congress presented Major Croghan with a medal, and Duncan and the other officers with gold-mounted swords. The defeat of the British at this period had an important effect upon the war, preventing their occupancy of the southern shore of the lakes and reaching the supplies at Cleveland.

A few years after the war, Joseph Duncan retired from the army and settled in Illinois. He was soon made Major-General of Militia, and later became a member of the State Senate. While serving in the legislature he introduced and secured the passage, in 1824, of the first law establishing free public schools in Illinois. He was elected to Congress in 1826 as the sole representative from Illinois and remained in the House of Representatives until his election as Governor of Illinois in 1834. He then returned to make Jacksonville his home, building a large house after the model of his Kentucky home and naming it "Elm Grove." He served as Governor for the next four years and advocated many progressive measures, some of them in advance of his times.

The mother of Mary Duncan was Elizabeth Caldwell Smith, the youngest daughter of James R. Smith and Hannah Caldwell. Mr. Smith came to this country as a poor Scotch lad, and by his own exertions became a wealthy merchant in New York City. He married Hannah, the second daughter of the Rev. James Caldwell, who was one of the patriots of the Revolution. The Caldwells were a Huguenot family who fled from religious persecution in France to Scotland, and thence came to Virginia. James Caldwell was a graduate of Princeton College and in 1761 was ordained a Presbyterian minister. He embraced the cause of liberty with intense earnestness, preaching to the troops from the baggage wagons, and sometimes with pistols on his pulpit, so strong ran party feeling in New Jersey. He became a marked man to the British. His wife, a daughter of John Ogden, was shot by a British soldier as the troops marched through Connecticut Farms, New Jersey. She was sitting by her window, surrounded by nine

children and holding her baby in her arms. Shortly after this, Mr. Caldwell was shot by an American sentry who was supposed to be in the employ of the British. The nine orphan children were adopted by friends of the family, General Lafayette taking one of the boys back to France and educating him in his family.

It is easy to realize the earnestness and strong religious views of children with such a heritage. Hannah (Mrs. Smith) was a woman of great force of character. She died when her daughter, Elizabeth, was eighteen. The father having died some years previously, the home in New York was broken up and Elizabeth lived with her sister, Mrs. Matthew St. Clair Clark, in Washington, D. C. Mr. and Mrs. Clark were noted entertainers and in their home Miss Smith met all the most delightful society of Washington. It was at a dinner given by John Quincy Adams at the White House that Miss Smith met her future husband, Joseph Duncan. Henry Clay, who sat next her at dinner, spoke in the highest terms of young Duncan. They were married in 1828 and immediately started for the West. Brought up in the luxurious homes of the East, Mrs. Duncan was impressed by the crudeness and hardships of life in the West, and has left some amusing accounts of her experiences. Later, when she came to live in Jacksonville, she became deeply attached to the people and the life in Illinois. She was a small, frail woman, with intense religious feeling and great refinement of manner and speech. Mrs. Putnam, in the last year of her life, spoke with feeling of all she owed her mother, of the unconscious influence of her simple, perfect manners and strong religious views upon the young, impulsive girl.

The hospitality of the Duncan home in Jacksonville was unbounded. There were no hotels, so all the weary travellers and politicians were made welcome at "Elm Grove." Here, in 1837, came Daniel Webster and his wife, and a great barbecue was held in the grove near the house.

Mr. Duncan was devoted to Mary, who was his eldest daughter, and made her his constant companion, teaching her to ride and taking her hunting with him. Every incident left an indelible impression upon the mind of his daughter, as the days of their companionship were few. Governor Duncan died suddenly on January 15, 1844, when his daughter Mary was but eleven years

old. Later, she never wearied of telling to her children her father's experiences of frontier life and impressing upon them his strong love of truth, sincerity, and courage, and his motto, of which her own life was a constant example, "True politeness is kindly feelings, kindly expressed." Through a correspondence of nearly fifty years with members of her family, no anniversary of his birth or death is forgotten, and the Christmas season always recalled the joyous carols the children used to sing in the old hall at "Elm Grove" and the rapturous opening of the stockings with original toys made by Governor Duncan.

After Governor Duncan left politics, he engaged in many large business enterprises. Unfortunately, he signed the bond of a man who proved a defaulter. This happened just before his death. Had he lived he could have met his obligations easily, but, as it was, a large portion of his estate was sacrificed, immense tracts of valuable Illinois land selling for twelve and one-half cents an acre.

Mrs. Duncan was left with seven children, but she courageously tried to meet every obligation. The family owned a large house and considerable land, which came from Mrs. Duncan's estate and could not be sold until the youngest child was of age, but there was little ready money. During her girlhood Mary Duncan learned to do everything necessary in the economy of a large household. It was in the days when neighbors helped in all times of trouble. We read in one old letter, quite as a matter of course, of the girl of fourteen "sitting up" all night with a friend's child who was ill. Later in life this training was most valuable and she was always a wonderful nurse.

Jacksonville was an unique town. There was a delightful mingling of the best New England settlers brought there by the founding of Illinois College, full of enthusiasm for a simple, intellectual life, and of a small colony of Kentuckians, with their cordial hospitality. It produced a society which has preserved its charm to this day. The fine elm-lined streets remind one of New England, but many of the houses have a distinctly Southern air.

A warm personal friend of Governor Duncan was Colonel John J. Hardin, who was killed at the battle of Buena Vista in the Mexican War. Colonel Hardin, one of the foremost lawyers in Illinois, was able to save the trust fund belonging to Mrs. Duncan's estate, and administered the property so that there should

be money for the education of the children of his friend. The girlish friendship between the two daughters, Ellen Hardin and Mary Duncan, was continued through the many vicissitudes of their lives. It was at the home of this friend, who married a son of Chancellor Walworth of New York, that Mary Duncan met her future husband. Mrs. Walworth is still living in Saratoga Springs and last year spoke of their girlhood in Illinois. School books were a great luxury and one copy sufficed for several girls. There was intense earnestness in all they did. The uncertainties of life in those early days taught them to value every opportunity, and a deep religious feeling, shown in the old yellow letters that Mrs. Walworth still prizes, permeated the simple, healthy life of the girls. It was an outdoor life. The girls had their saddle-horses and rode nearly every day. Both of them, later in life, laid great stress on the benefit, physically and mentally, of this feature of their life.

When Mary Duncan was thirteen she accompanied her mother in May, 1846, on a trip East. It was a serious undertaking in those days. They visited Mrs. Clark in Washington, who lived in a beautiful home on Lafayette Square, opposite the White House. The house is still standing, one of the stateliest of the old mansions. On the corner nearby lived "Dolly Madison," the widow of President Madison. Writing in 1892, from Washington, Mrs. Putnam recalls incidents of her early visit, dinners at the President's and at Daniel Webster's, and the ceremonious life at her aunt's; "Yet all this grandeur did not fill me with a desire for its long continuance, for I remember thinking silently that the freedom of my prairie home was much sweeter. But I was enraptured with Mrs. Madison,—lovely Mrs. Madison! It was a delight to us young people to pay our respects to her very often, when she received us in turbaned cap, with the dignity of a princess, and with the urbanity of a truly loyal American woman. We do not see such a type of womanhood now-a-days. Another pleasant memory of Washington, on a later visit, was watching the sculptor, Mills, who was making the equestrian statue of Jackson now in the park. I was also interested in the finely-trained horse that was his model, which I used to see put through its paces, in the Smithsonian grounds, as I walked across them to my uncle Josiah Caldwell's."

There is a characteristic letter of her's written during her visit of 1846, to her youngest sister, describing a May ball she attended. It shows her keen observation and interest in people even at that early age. She writes: "I was introduced to about 9 boys and 10 girls and I talked to 7 girls that I did not know from Adam." Then, with the naturalness which was always her great charm, she advises her sister to be good, adding, "I am very sorry I was not more obedient to Cousin when I was at home. I would have felt so much better now I am away." She always spoke of this visit as marking an epoch in her life. It aroused her ambition to study and prepare herself to take her place in the world that always interested her. She was ever a believer in travel as a means of broadening one's view of life.

In 1847 came another trip to Washington. Mary Duncan describes the journey in a letter. "We went in the cars to Naples, which was entirely inundated. After spending a terribly long day there, we proceeded on board the 'Prairie State,' the finest boat on the Illinois, and arrived in St. Louis just in time to take the boat for Cincinnati. Every one was pleasant on board, and we had good company within ourselves. . . . A severe attack of fever prostrated me on the second day of our leaving Cincinnati;" but she was better "two days later when we arrived at Pittsburg and took the Brownsville boat. In the stage across the mountains there were many pleasing incidents that occurred that day; but I defer detailing them till I see you face to face. We arrived at Washington Saturday night as usual, but what was our disappointment at finding Aunt Anna Clark breaking up housekeeping and going to board. So of course our visit to her was knocked in the head. We are happily situated with Cousin" [wife of Col. Hamilton of Bladensburg, Maryland]. "There are more negroes collected here than I ever saw in my life." Then comes a characteristic touch: "I have promised 30 girls to write." She was always sociable!

In 1850 Mary Duncan went with friends to New Orleans, where she remained some weeks for a very gay visit with some Caldwell cousins.

Mary Duncan received her school education at Jacksonville Female Academy. The number of studies were few, but they were learned with a thoroughness rare now-a-days. She was for-

fortunate in having for a teacher Miss Lucretia Kimball, now Mrs. Kendall, who came from an Eastern home to instruct these minds of which "neither age nor poverty could blunt their intense desire for knowledge." Mrs. Kendall is still living, honored by her pupils to whom she brought not only love of the best literature, which she read to them out of school hours, but a deep religious faith. Mrs. Putnam attributed much of the success of her life to the high aspirations inspired by the rare personality of her beloved teacher. Mrs. Kendall, in speaking of her former pupil, said it was given to but few teachers to see the beginning, the fulfillment, and the completion of such a full life.

Mary Duncan was graduated from the Jacksonville Female Academy in 1851 and in September visited, with her mother, in Chicago, having entertainments given for them by Mrs. Newberry, Mrs. Kinsie and Mrs. Blatchford. The winter was spent in nursing a beloved sister, Elizabeth, who, in spite of all that devotion could do, died in June, 1852. This loss was followed two months later by the death of Hannah, a younger sister. The family now consisted only of Mrs. Duncan and three children, Mary, Julia, and Joseph. In April, 1853, they went East, visiting Washington, West Point, and Saratoga Springs. At the latter place Mary Duncan met Charles E. Putnam, and they became engaged. Mr. Putnam had expected to practice law in New York City; but as Mary Duncan had inherited her father's strong love for the great rolling prairies of Illinois, and belief in the future of this country, she persuaded Mr. Putnam to visit the West. He located in Davenport, Iowa, in the spring of 1854. They were married December 9, 1854, at "Elm Grove," Jacksonville, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Putnam arrived at Rock Island on Saturday, January 9, 1855, too late to cross the river to Davenport. They came over Sunday morning and attended church twice that day. It was characteristic of Mrs. Putnam that she presented her letter to the pastor and was admitted to the First Presbyterian Church the following Sunday. She never wasted any time in indecision. Mr. Putnam was a partner of Judge Mitchell, a prominent lawyer; but the times were hard and their income, for the first few years, of the smallest. The first winter the young couple boarded, and their home consisted of one room. Mrs. Putnam, though she had left a home filled with fine old

mahogany furniture, writes most cheerfully: "You don't know what a beautiful table I have made me, covered with red calico. Charlie and I sit beside it each night and read and sew." This first winter they read Milton's life and works and Addison's works. Mr. Putnam was not fond of general society, but to the intimate friends who knew him in his own home, he was the most genial and delightful of companions. The custom of spending the evenings in reading aloud was continued throughout their married life of thirty-three years. As the family grew, the children brought their work, drawing, models of ships, or whatever it might be, around the large tables, and worked, while Mr. Putnam read from the standard authors in one of the richest and most melodious of voices.

On July 30, 1855, Mrs. Putnam writes of an event fraught with great consequences to Iowa: "The first locomotive that has ever puffed its steam into the State of Iowa has just passed by. You don't know what an excitement there was all along this street, and indeed all over Davenport, last week when the 'Antoine Le Claire' made its first visit. The track is only laid down a little way—that is, five miles now, but not a mile then,—and it is truly an era in the town and state. You see, the engine is named for one of our citizens, and his likeness, cast in bronze, is on either side. This, with a visit from the Indians, has added new life and spirit and something to talk about the last three weeks."

At this time Mr. and Mrs. Putnam were keeping house in a small house on Fifth street between Perry and Rock Island streets. On October 18, 1855, their eldest son was born at "Elm Grove" and named Joseph Duncan, after Mrs. Putnam's father. The next few years were devoted to the care of her rapidly increasing family.

Mrs. Putnam's letters reflect her interest in public events. A letter written to her mother, January 27, 1860, shows strong feeling: "You ask what I think of our country? Read Seward's speech in the Senate—'them's my sentiments;' but still I do not fear war. God is a God of mercy as well as justice. Oh, if each one of us would pray as we ought—lead the lives we ought in all things—God would avert his judgments. Let us strive each to be as peaceable and forbearing with each other as we can. No wonder nations quarrel when families and countries don't agree.

God have mercy on our country, have mercy, have mercy! He is our only help in this our sorest time of need!"

When the war was inevitable, Mrs. Putnam worked with her usual enthusiasm to aid the soldiers. A letter written September 26, 1861, says: "We have established a Soldiers' Aid Society today, and in my absence they appointed me secretary. I feel very incompetent to do my duty to such an office and attend to my little family, but Charlie insists on my taking it and promises to assist me all he can. . . I have almost knit a sock for the soldiers since Tuesday night, by just picking it up when riding, nursing the baby, or giving orders in the kitchen." On February 3, 1862, is the first mention of any lecture entertainment Mrs. Putnam ever undertook. In the light of her successful work of later years, it is amusing to read of the door receipts of a lecture by Dr. Fisher, for the benefit of the Soldiers' Aid Society—certainly a worthy cause—being but \$18, while the expenses were \$24. "But he was generous enough not to let the Soldiers' Aid Society lose that. I had to work very hard to get even this money out. . . I had to see to all things regarding the lecture myself and, depend upon it, I will never have anything to do with such an affair again."

But when Mrs. Putnam's interest was once aroused it was impossible for her not to go on. In February there is a report of a battle and "Mr. Powers has just been here and brought me \$50 from the gentlemen. They raised over \$600 yesterday for the relief of our wounded. I've been out this morning, seeing what I could get. We will have an extra meeting tomorrow and next day, and work all we can. Mrs. Rogers, our treasurer, is sick; Mrs. Newcomb, our president, out of town; so all the responsibility falls on me."

Mrs. Putnam's interest in the Academy of Sciences grew out of the love of her eldest son and was so interwoven with the currents of her family life, that a true picture of her could not be drawn without emphasizing her life as a mother. Her work for the Academy was the outgrowth of a mother's love such as is rarely seen. She herself, in alluding to a proposed life of her father, says: "If you would write little home incidents, some home characteristics, they after all make up the greater part of a man's character and add much to the interest of a history."

Her own letters give the most vivid picture of her life. January 8, 1863, upon receiving the *New York Observer*, she writes: "I read every word of it and all that could interest the children. The red ants seem to take Duncan. Oh, mother! what a luxury to have boys old enough to appreciate what you read to them! I have so much pleasure in watching the development of Duncan's mind. My whole days are spent in instructing, playing with, and keeping the children clean. I sew scarcely a stitch and fear my industry will flag; however, I never was so busy in my life—or more happy." Mrs. Putnam fitted up a school room in her house and for several years taught the older children each morning.

The summer of 1863 was spent in Saratoga Springs. Mrs. Putnam had recently become interested in the works of Froebel and began giving the children object-lessons from nature. On January 11, 1864, she writes: "Duncan astonished his father and me by his questions. I fear to have him learn to read,—still let him say his lessons to me daily. Indeed, I do little else but teach manners, morals, reading, spelling, geography, and Bible from morning till night. . . I feel rewarded, as I go around and seal the foreheads with a mother's sacred kiss, for all my toil and care, and would not exchange my lot for that of the most idle woman in the world. A young lady visiting here said I had the most delightful home in Davenport. I felt it was indeed the truth."

And again, on March 9, 1866: "There is not an hour I spend with my children, in their instruction and improvement, that I am not triply rewarded. . . I had 28 to dinner last Saturday. We had our bees robbed one night last week and the boxes broken up and the little helpless things scattered everywhere. I gathered them up next day and was badly stung for my pains. I suffered very much, but could I have saved my bees, I would not have cared. They are all dead."

On February 27, 1864, Louis Agassiz lectured in Davenport. Mrs. Putnam writes of spending the morning in reading about glaciers. It was characteristic of her to the end of her life to prepare herself so as to appreciate and understand any new subject. She availed herself of all the opportunities that came to her. She, with her son Duncan, had the pleasure of meeting Agassiz later at Mr. Hirschl's.

In May, 1863, the family moved to a beautiful country home, "Woodlawn," about two miles from the center of the town, on a bluff overlooking the Mississippi River. The place of eighteen acres was laid out by Mr. Mackenzie, an Englishman, in a combination of lawn and wild woods. Both Mr. and Mrs. Putnam became interested in horticulture, their enthusiasm being shown by the purchase of technical books as well as by the planting of an orchard, garden, and vineyard. Here was founded an ideal home.

Mrs. Putnam led an active outdoor life superintending the garden and grounds, encouraging her sons to be interested in all the affairs of the place. She was their companion in all things. She learned to swim, with five of her sons. For some years Mr. and Mrs. Putnam attended a class in a gymnasium in town, often walking the four miles there and back in the evening. This outdoor life was what gave her the strength to carry out her plans and accomplish her great work in life.

On Thanksgiving Day, 1865, Mrs. Putnam writes: "To one and all the dear ones at home I send greetings on this our first great Thanksgiving Day, the grandest day of thanks our country has ever known; freedom in the letter as well as in the spirit; universal hope and renewed hope and renewed life to our land. Proud am I that I am American-born, proud to have six sons to claim this glorious country as their native land; while my heart swells with pride of land and country, my hands are busy about the ordinary affairs of life; and while my heart yearns over my children and their future, their present wants of bread and butter and clothing press heavily upon me, and I cannot spare the time even to jot down all my thoughts and aspirations for them."

The years passed swiftly in the home life, and in attending to a large household, with many guests coming and going. The surplus of the large garden was sent to friends. Neighbors tell of how Mrs. Putnam would stop and distribute flowers and fruit to the children as she drove to town. There was no pleasure to her in having things unless shared with others. Even in the first year of their housekeeping, in 1855, Mrs. Putnam writes of supplying the whole neighborhood with fresh vegetables from their tiny garden; and again in September, 1872, she writes: "We have so many pears and grapes that I want every one to come and enjoy the place, the fruit, and every thing, while I have so

much. I have entertained, I believe, one hundred people at least this summer, a few at a time."

These years were probably the happiest of Mrs. Putnam's life. She writes in 1871: "I am sitting in my conservatory, surrounded by my beautiful flowers, God's special gifts. . . . Life seems so gay and beautiful."

In 1872 came a terrible scourge of scarlet fever; eight children were ill at one time, and the eighth son, Hamilton, died. This was the first break in the family circle.

The next winter, 1872-3, a printing press was purchased, and the older boys began printing a magazine, *The Star of Woodlawn*, and other papers. A finely equipped carpenter shop facilitated the making of canoes and sailing boats. Theatricals were given during the winter for several years, on a regularly equipped stage, with drop curtain and all the accessories. There were historical societies, where original papers were read every week, a stamp company, and a juvenile savings bank. Everything was done to encourage the children to develop plans and carry them out successfully. The parents believed also in recreation and provided a billiard table, riding horses, and all the outdoor sports. Mrs. Putnam writes, in July, 1873, urging her mother to visit her and "let a little of the full glow of happiness that so fills my heart and life to overflowing flow into yours, and feel the full influence of the buoyant young life that so fills this household."

In the fall of 1873 the eldest son, Duncan, returned from an expedition to the Yellowstone under the command of Captain Jones. It had been thought that the outdoor life would strengthen him so that he could go to Harvard; but he returned with a severe cold, which, during the next winter, developed into tuberculosis. It was the beginning of a long battle for life, lasting eight years. Out of the shadow of this sorrow, Mrs. Putnam came a stronger but an older woman. The gay and joyous note of the letters has gone to return no more.

The letters tell their own story, December 1, 1873: "The Doctor says Duncan is not able to study or go to college for years, if ever. We have talked the matter over deliberately, my husband and I. I feel that we must make every sacrifice to accomplish [his restoration to health]."

January 1, 1874: "Tomorrow night the children will go

through their play of William Tell. Mr. Putnam insists on making the home lively and pleasant for Duncan as long as he is with us. It will be absolutely necessary to send him away from home, and very soon. He had a hemorrhage in the street the day before yesterday, which alarmed us all very much."

January 21, 1874: "I leave Duncan scarcely a moment night or day. His father sits with him sometimes while I do some errands. I don't know what to do with him. If he sits still he reads Huxley and Darwin and all the other brain-splitting books you ever heard of—says histories are almost as heavy and stupid as novels. He was actually relieved when we 'were through David Copperfield. I suppose while he lives he will work."

January 30, 1874: "Duncan is anxious to go with Dr. Parry to Utah next summer, as it is on the desert and near the mountains, so he can catch all kinds of bugs. Oh, that God would spare his life that he may fulfill his great promise. . . I've been setting type to-day. George and I run races which can distribute the fastest. I am learning lots about printing and becoming fascinated with the work."

February 4, 1874, a letter to her mother: "Duncan has been very ill. I have had no heart to write. To-day he is back in his bug room which makes him and me more cheerful. This is the fourteenth hemorrhage in six days. I have not left Duncan a moment day or night; how long I can hold out I don't know. Pray for me and mine, dear mother.

"Your loving child,

MARY."

February 15, 1874: "Yesterday I took Duncan to spend the day with Mr. Pratt; he afterwards went to the Horticultural Society, and they made him Secretary pro tem. I went up for him there. He was such a boy, writing the minutes of the meetings, surrounded by gray-headed men. He the only child in the midst and doing the hardest work. However, it interested him and I cannot see that it hurt him any."

March 5: ". . . I have been setting type to-day, so has Duncan. The boys have printed off my piece—I set every word of it myself."

On March 18, 1874, the eleventh child and tenth son was born. A few weeks afterwards, when Mrs. Putnam was driving with her son Duncan, the horse became frightened and ran. Mrs.

Putnam was thrown out, striking the sciatic nerve. She was unable to move for weeks, and never fully recovered from this injury. In September of this year she joined her son in Colorado. A month was spent most delightfully in camping in a log cabin at Empire City. Five children were with her and five were left in Davenport. Two botanists, Dr. Engelmann and Dr. Parry, were collecting in the mountains. They, with their wives and Mr. and Mrs. Ballord of Davenport, made a pleasant party that gathered nightly around the fire of pine knots in the cabin.

Mrs. Putnam returned home in September, leaving Duncan to spend the winter in Cañon City. During this winter Mrs. Putnam read all his lessons to her third son, John, whose eyes began to trouble him. It was through her eyes that he was enabled to graduate with honors from the High School. One wonders where she ever found the time to accomplish all she did. Her household cares were always arranged so that there was time to be with the children, when out of school. She had the great gift of realizing what was the most important thing to be done. She wasted no time over the non-essentials.

On February 4, 1875, comes a record of the first effort to raise money for the Academy of Natural Sciences, the beginning of almost exactly twenty-eight years of work for the association. At the time Mrs. Putnam was forty-three years old, the mother of ten living children, and with the multiplied cares of a large family and a wide social circle, she would have been entitled to retire from active work. But the voice of her eldest son, an exile for his health, came to her, urging her to do something "to make the Academy popular." She writes to a friend, speaking of one subscription already received: "If all the patrons of the library were as liberal to the Academy, I will not have more to do to get my \$500 than I can do with my hands thus tied with my sick children. Why should not the two institutions work side by side and be one in spirit as they are in fact, each struggling for the advancement of knowledge in our midst, each helping on to the investigation of truth, could they not be made a crown of glory to our town?" A hope which is at last being realized.

On February 11, 1875, her youngest child, Berthoud, died. This loss was deeply felt by Mrs. Putnam. She writes of how

empty her life seemed, the first time for twenty years that there was not a baby in the house, to be the first consideration. Those who knew Mrs. Putnam can see how naturally grew her interest in the Academy, which she would sometimes laughingly call her twelfth child.

Mrs. Putnam was elected a member of the Davenport Academy of Sciences June 2, 1869, at the same time her son Duncan, a boy of thirteen, was elected. He had been interested in the Academy almost from its beginning and insisted that his mother must become a member at the same time. She was the first woman member. The Academy had been organized on December 14, 1867, by four men. The meetings had been held in various offices until, in 1868, a "very liberal offer was received and accepted from the Young Men's Library Association to have the Academy deposit its cabinet and hold its meetings in the Library rooms, corner of Second and Brady streets." It may be noticed that the singular noun covers the extent of the museum. Here the "cabinet" remained in a dark corner until the fall of 1872, when the meetings were held for some time in the law office of Putnam & Rogers. Mrs. Putnam never made any pretense to being a scientist herself, but she frequently accompanied Mr. Pratt and Duncan on their Saturday excursions for shells and insects.

In March, 1875, Mrs. Putnam, assisted by other ladies, furnished the bare Academy room with matting, shades, and cases. A letter of June 2, 1875, to Mrs. Parry, tells of further work: "Duncan and I attended together the Academy meeting the other evening. . . There was a large attendance, and Duncan seemed wonderfully pleased with the looks of things and the large donations sent in. . . I presented eleven ladies' names [for membership] the other night; this will make twelve. The cases look so nice, and many other things are waiting to be arranged; Duncan's collection fills one-half a case." Then, with a prophetic look to the future, she continues: "I wish we had a fire-proof building. . . I wish the Doctor could induce some of those rich societies East to send us \$1,000 as a nest egg to secure some property here for that purpose; now while the enthusiasm is freshly awakened we must not let it die out until something is done. I like the plan of endowing the institution so as to secure some one to spend all of his time there, making exchanges, etc."

On September 2, 1875, Mrs. Putnam writes: "Duncan thinks the Academy has at last done something in that it has sent Dr. Farquharson to Detroit. Well, I, too, have found a new interest in the Academy in that it has resolved itself into a Home Missionary Society. There is an old man, Captain Hall, very much interested in the Academy, who goes up and down the river in his boat every day and he has a locker in there filled with Sunday School books for the little children all along the shore, and when they see him coming they run down to the shore with their stone axes and arrows and give them to Uncle Hall—so he brings in many things every few days to the Academy, and for these he has distributed 460 books to the children in the last three months. Now, my dear mother, where can you find a nobler work? All the parents of these children are going to visit the Academy thro' Fair week and we expect to interest them to bring in many more things," a hope which was realized, for on October 31st there is mention in a morning paper of a long list of donations to the Academy. For years afterwards Mrs. Putnam collected Bibles, old school books, illustrated papers, money, and groceries to give to Captain Hall. It is largely due to his efforts that the Academy has one of the finest collections of Mound-builders' relics and ancient pottery from the Mississippi Valley.

The country was deeply interested in the Centennial celebration, which was to occur in 1876. Women were urged to send samples of their handiwork to the "Woman's Pavilion" at Philadelphia. The enthusiasm of the women of Davenport was diverted into a new channel, which has had ever widening influences and has been of inestimable benefit to the town. We read of the beginning of the Centennial Association in a letter from Mrs. Putnam to Mrs. C. C. Parry, written September 17th, 1875: ". . . We had a most enthusiastic meeting yesterday of the ladies. I was so tired last night I could not sleep, what with shopping, making calls in the morning, arranging about my grapes, sending to Rock Island for the young ladies, having them to tea, going up immediately after to a lecture on the Mind . . . I wonder I don't feel more tired today, but I don't. Our Academy rooms look lovely. Mrs. Silsbee, Mrs. Price, and Mrs. Clark sent flowers. . . . It seems to have been well understood that the meeting was called in behalf of friends of the Academy and most

noble was the response and enthusiasm. Mrs. Potter took the chair, and I made a speech about the necessities of the Academy, and its great work. I think it was a little 'stumpy,' but upon a vote being taken whether such an organization for the Centennial, having the Academy as its legitimate finale should be had, a most enthusiastic 'aye' was responded. . . . About 30 ladies were present." The effects of this meeting were far-reaching in the history of the Academy. The Ladies' Centennial Association published the first volume of Proceedings.

We can realize the interest women were taking in the Academy when out of a list of eighty-three new members this year, we find forty-three were women, all personal friends of Mrs. Putnam, so it is not difficult to see how their interest originated. She was succeeding in "making the Academy popular."

On November 26, 1875, J. Duncan Putnam introduced a resolution at a meeting of the Academy to publish the Proceedings, giving the following reasons: "1. It will preserve much material that might otherwise be lost. 2. It will furnish greater incentive to our members to make original investigations. 3. It will increase the library by means of exchange with other societies and publishers. 4. It will place us on a creditable footing with the other societies of the world." It was voted to publish them, and on December 20, 1875, the offer of the Ladies' Centennial Association to print the Proceedings was accepted by the Board of Trustees.

To raise the money necessary was a serious undertaking in those days. We read in a letter of Mrs. Putnam to Mrs. Parry, December 29, 1875: "We want to have a grand entertainment the 22nd of February; hope to make \$200 clear. I have been successful in raising, from the Academy gentlemen mostly, the sum of \$183 for publishing fund. I promised \$200. . . . I have had some amusing experiences in studying human nature this winter and am more astonished than I can tell you at opposition to this project from sources little expected. . . . The Academy men are working right hard to get their Proceedings ready. We want the book to be Centennial and worthy our city. . . . Nothing but the publication keeps him [Duncan] alive. He and Mr. Pratt visit the engravers, go after the drawings of axes, flints, arrowheads, etc. He gets up town to the Academy rooms every

day, most always twice a day. There are more visitors there in one day now than there used to be in weeks."

On January 8, 1876, Mrs. Putnam writes: "We had quite a meeting of our Centennial ladies who are to appoint committees for our next entertainment on Monday next. I get out of all these duties by raising \$200 from the members and others. . . . The ladies voted \$100 of their money and are going to raise money to the amount of \$600, with my \$200, and assume the publication. We have a board consisting of Mrs. Magonegal, Mrs. McCullough, Mrs. Sanders, and myself to look after the publication; having already, (or rather Duncan and Mr. Pratt have) received offers from several engravers and publishers; and we can have about 25 pages of engravings and wood cuts for about \$200. . . . Let our Centennial issue be worthy the name."

February 9, 1876: "We are having a lively time over committee meetings, etc., . . . and lots of nice things are happening for the Academy every day."

The Centennial Association planned an elaborate series of entertainments to raise the sum of \$600. The first entertainment on February 22, 1876, was very successful; but in the early hours of the following morning the building in which it was held was destroyed by fire, occasioning losses of about \$1000 to persons who had loaned articles for the entertainment. The association felt bound to repay these. The first pages of the Proceedings have been started, but the Academy, on February 25, passed a resolution of thanks and sympathy and suggested the postponing of the publication. The women courageously refused.

On March 10, 1876, Mrs. Putnam writes: "We undertook a great enterprise and have done wonderfully well indeed. I never heard of anything like it. We have raised at least \$1500 in a little over two weeks; paid off our debt, and have on hand \$365 for our book. I have devoted hours every day to the work and hope my labors are over."

March 17: "I have been led into more public life than I think either agreeable or necessary of late and feel very happy to retire into private obscurity of home again. I attended the last meeting of our Centennial Society Wednesday, and audited all the accounts. In three weeks we have raised enough money to pay all debts incurred by the fire, \$1000, and have \$450 left in the bank for

publishing our book. The citizens have expressed great sympathy and done a great deal for us. I shall devote myself to my garden this summer." She also writes at this time of reading his lessons to her son John, for three hours a day, and to the children two hours every evening. An old list, kept by one of the children, shows an astonishing array of books read to them by Mrs. Putnam: — histories, travels, Scott's novels; and four times did she read aloud to successive groups of children the unabridged edition of Robinson Crusoe, not omitting the religious discourses.

March 27, 1876, Mrs. Putnam writes to Mr. Parry: . . . "If you have received the late dailies you must be pretty well posted as to what all my outside life has been these last busy weeks, but they tell not half the story; how through discouragements we have come out victorious. Even fire could not quench our zeal, and never for a moment have I felt with some that we must postpone our work of publishing. . . . They are thinking of forming classes in the Academy and letting those interested in special subjects meet together and report to the Academy. Duncan is urging this very much, and will take the chairmanship of the zoölogical department. . . . You never knew anything like the warmth and sympathy every one has expressed for our misfortunes." The Bric-a-Brac Club gave a loan entertainment which helped materially to pay the debt caused by the fire.

In August of this year Baron Charles R. von der Osten Sacken, a distinguished Russian entomologist, visited "Woodlawn" to meet the young entomologist, Duncan. He has been an honored friend of the family ever since and has contributed a scientific paper to this Memorial volume. He was one of many who showed their appreciation of the remarkable work done by the invalid boy, self-taught, working out his ideas alone in this Western town, far from the influence and help of college or museum. His work was done with such thoroughness that to-day, after a lapse of twenty-five years, it is still the authority in the lines of work he took up.

In September, 1876, Mrs. Putnam and her son took the first copy of the Proceedings to Philadelphia and placed it in the Pavilion at the Centennial as a sample of woman's work in a Western town. They then went to Washington, where Professor Henry,

Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, became so interested in the work of the Academy that he placed its name among the first on the list of foreign exchanges for scientific books. On October 14 the Publishing Committee of the Ladies' Centennial Society reports "Vol. 1, published by them, as now complete and placed at the disposal of the Academy." Nine hundred and ninety copies were received; two hundred and fifty were distributed to subscribers and four hundred and fifty-six to the scientific societies. The volume received praise from all parts of the world from those interested in the progress of science.

A rather detailed account has been given of the publication of the first volume, because it was a unique enterprise for women and also because it accounts for Mrs. Putnam's future interest in the publication, an interest that continued through her life, and by her endowment will go on in perpetuity.

At the urgent solicitation of Mrs. Putnam, a few months later, on February 22, 1877, her old friend, Mrs. Patience Veile Newcomb, gave a lot on Brady Street to the Academy of Sciences, "To show my appreciation of its worthy objects and because of the great regard I entertain for my young friend J. Duncan Putnam, and my admiration of the noble work he is doing in its behalf." Plans to build were at once commenced. Mrs. Putnam and Mrs. Sanders were elected on March 6, 1877, a committee to procure subscriptions for a new building. The required amount was raised by Mrs. Putnam, Mrs. Sanders being unable to act.

A "Kettle Drum" entertainment was given in July, 1877, at "Woodlawn" by Mr. and Mrs. Putnam for the benefit of the Academy. Between seven and eight hundred people were present. It was a perfect summer's night, and it was the most successful fête ever given for charity in Davenport. The amount realized, eight hundred dollars, was so encouraging that two days later the committee on building reported in favor of erecting "a plain and unpretentious edifice, sufficiently large for the present needs of the Academy but not so large as to leave it in debt."

The corner-stone was laid on October 4, 1877, and on February 22, 1878, a year from the gift of the lot, the new building was opened to the public. There were on exhibition an art collection, copper implements from Wisconsin, eight microscopes, and

a beautiful collection of butterflies. Though the admission fee was but twenty-five cents, the net proceeds were four hundred and fifty dollars. The Ferry Company, through the interest of Captain Robinson, a lifelong friend of the Academy, carried all ticket-holders free from Rock Island, which shows the universal interest felt in the starting of this little institution.

In January, 1878, an Art Association was organized and held its meetings in the Academy building. The society existed for several years, holding a number of exhibitions. It was always an earnest desire of Mrs. Putnam's that the fine arts should have a place in the Academy's work, and that the Academy should be an institution for the broadest culture.

On August 4, 1878, there is mention of future work. "I have had the circular room in the basement finished; it does look so beautiful, and will give us room for all the curiosities we can collect. I have had the lathes, nails, and sand given to me, and I had enough money in the bank, left from the festival, to pay for the work; so now I have accomplished what I started out to do" (a statement true of her whole life). Mrs. Putnam often spoke of laborers volunteering to give a day's work to help build this institution, and took pride in the development of the Academy from such small beginnings.

Mrs. Putnam was elected President of the Academy on January 1, 1879. It was an honor she always deeply appreciated. Dr. Parry, in nominating Mrs. Putnam as President, said: "It is quite unnecessary to explain to any one here present that the actual success and present prosperity of the Academy has been coincident with the interest taken in it by women. It was a Women's Centennial Association that first inaugurated and successfully carried out the publication of the Proceedings, on which more than on any other one thing the scientific character and standing of the Academy abroad has been firmly established. The very ground beneath our feet is the spontaneous gift of a generous woman and this commodious building, which affords us a permanent home, from lowest foundation stone to highest roof-crest, if not the direct work of woman's hand, has been wrought out and completed under the inspiring influence of woman's heart."

The years were full of busy plans to raise money for the Acad-

emy, of which we have no record, except the occasional mention in the Proceedings of the proceeds of a lecture or entertainment. An unfinished letter which survived the destruction of "Woodlawn" gives a picture of what work these entertainments entailed. It was written just after a concert given by Sherwood on May 23, 1879: "From day to day I haunted the editorial chairs, buttonholed the local editors, made journeys to Rock Island and back again, had tickets printed at one office, placards at another, and the programmes at a third. These tickets I was very judicious with, giving some fifty to the editors, and about as many more to music teachers and those promising to interest their pupils. The placards I took to Rock Island, left them with a friend who saw four of them put in the street cars. (We sold four tickets in Rock Island). . . . The other placards I took in my buggy and put in front of windows, and sent John to street car lines to have others put in cars. This was no small part of the work, for the next morning after leaving them they did not appear; so I had to see first one driver and then another about it. At last Sherwood was fully understood to be coming. You could not lift your eyes along the principal streets that 'Sherwood, the greatest pianist in America, Burtis Opera House, May 23,' did not meet your eye. These immense placards haunt my memory. Then the programmes: how to get them up was at first a mystery to me. . . . They were to be dainty and unique. . . . The 'opinions of the press,' which the agent sent me, had been placed in the hands of the local editor to make extracts from day by day, and which by the way he never used. Now, you must know our 'City Local' is a hard man to find, as he sleeps all day and writes up his locals at night. After many delays the programmes came out, 1000 of them. My presence with the old blind pony on the street corner seemed to be the sign for the gathering of all the musical men, and I would hardly have stopped before they would flock around the buggy and talk over the prospects, and one after another would start off to find some enthusiastic person who needed only to be told about Sherwood to bring in a dozen men." The letter lies unfinished. A few days later, May 27, came news of the death of the third son, John, at an Eastern college.

In her annual address, read January 7, 1880, Mrs. Putnam regrets that she had not been able to do more work for the Acad-

emy, on account of the great sorrow that had come to her; she speaks of the afternoon talks given by Mr. Pratt, Dr. Parry, and others, and adds that "the familiar lectures and classes have been established with a view to secure the interest and coöperation of the pupils of our city schools. If the results in this direction have not as yet proved all that could be desired, or reasonably expected, it is still a matter of congratulation that at least some earnest efforts have been made to place the Academy on its legitimate basis as an educational institution." In the spring Mrs. Putnam had arranged a botany class under the direction of Dr. Parry.

Thus was inaugurated a movement which Mrs. Putnam and the other workers in the Academy had had in mind for years: the teaching of the school children natural history in the Academy. This work was carried on from time to time by Mr. Pratt. It is gratifying to know that twenty-three years later, just before her death, Mrs. Putnam had the deep happiness of seeing this movement regularly organized and the children coming by the hundreds, to the Academy to study its collections and receive systematic scientific instruction.

These were anxious years, watching over the failing health of her eldest son. Mrs. Putnam accompanied him on his short trips, one being to Des Moines in 1881, in the endeavor to have a state entomologist appointed for Iowa. What is now regarded as an economic necessity was then regarded as a most visionary extravagance. Of her visit to the legislature Mrs. Putnam writes: "It recalls the days when I heard Clay, Webster and Calhoun, in Washington; a little different, it is true, still the same feeling came over me."

The publication of Vol. II of the Proceedings was the individual enterprise of J. D. Putnam and was begun in February, 1877. One result of the publication was to bring in large numbers of scientific exchanges. Mrs. Putnam writes in August, 1878: "Our library has gotten a great start and is filling up very fast. We have put the books up in the Art room, and they set off the room beautifully."

No sooner was Vol. II completed than Vol. III was started under great difficulties. The amateur printing press was moved from "Woodlawn" to the basement of the Academy; and here the typesetting and proof reading was done in the most economical

manner, most of it by J. Duncan Putnam. Out of such sacrifices grew Vol. III.

At page 128 of the volume the labors of J. Duncan Putnam ceased. He died on December 10, 1881. He was one of the sincerest seekers after the truth, gentle, modest of disposition, entirely forgetful of self in the enthusiasm of the aim in view. He had crowded into his brief span of twenty-six years the work and enthusiasm of a long life. To the mother who had watched over him for eight years, who had been his comrade in every enterprise, who had built up the Academy for the sake of bringing a bright look on the wan face of the invalid, to her his interest in the Academy descended as a sacred legacy.

Naturally, Mrs. Putnam's work in the Academy went on. On January 27, 1882, she was appointed Chairman of the Publication Committee to succeed her son. From this time until her death her interest in the publication never lessened. The year was spent in arranging the papers of J. Duncan Putnam. With the assistance of Prof. Herbert Osborn his scientific work was completed and published in Vol. III, which was appropriately made a memorial volume.

On October 29, 1882, Mrs. Putnam writes to her sister, Mrs. Edward P. Kirby, Jacksonville, Illinois, "I sent you sheets of the Memorial Volume for my gift. It is more than gold to me, the perpetuating the memory of such a boy;" and a little later: "I am so happy in this glorious work of my beloved son. I wonder if any one ever did so honor and love a boy. God bless his precious memory!"

In April, 1883, a special meeting was called, and an effort was made to raise the indebtedness of the Academy. Not only was this done, but over \$1,000 was left as an endowment for the institution. The credit of this undertaking is due especially to Hon. George H. French, Major George P. McClelland and Mr. Nicholas Kuhn.

Mrs. Putnam attended the meeting in Minneapolis of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in August, 1883, renewing and forming friendships with Eastern scientists and interesting them in the Academy. Professor F. W. Putnam visited Davenport from Minneapolis and gave a lecture for the benefit of the Academy. The visit of Professor W. H. Holmes at

this time was followed by an offer to write a paper on the pottery contained in the Academy museum, the Smithsonian Institution to furnish the plates to illustrate the paper. This is the most valuable paper ever printed by the Academy on the pottery in its collections. The generous offer was gladly accepted, so Volume IV was started with the sum of only \$72.37 on hand, and unpaid subscriptions amounting to \$51.

Entertainments helped to meet the expenses of the Academy. Courses of lectures were successfully given; the annual children's entertainments on the twenty-second of February were never by any chance omitted; an extensive exhibition of English water colors proved a great success both artistically and financially. All these undertakings and many others, of which space will not permit the mention, testify to constant, busy work on the part of Mrs. Putnam. There were hours of grief which were silently hidden from her immediate family, but which a stray letter reveals. She laments writing a sad letter the day before, to her sister, "but how can I help it; now and then I feel I must cry out in agony, but to-day I determined to work, work again for the beloved Academy, and so I get me to work."

In 1885 a salary of \$500 was voted for Mr. Pratt as Curator. He had given all his spare hours, from the beginning of the formation of the museum, to arranging the specimens, and had been a most faithful worker. All the work in the Academy previous to this time had been verily "a labor of love." As usual Mrs. Putnam raised the money, assisted in part by Mr. E. P. Lynch.

June 9, 1885, Mrs. Putnam writes: "The Horticultural Society offered the Academy strawberries and cream for a festival. I have all the management and responsibility. I rather shrink from it, quite different from a few years ago when such a thing was fun; especially as I have all of the profits for my publication. Mr. Holmes' paper is done, and I have to pay out \$100 right away and have not one cent." After the entertainment was over, on June 22, she writes: "I have given a most successful and brilliant Academy festival—a decided success—a large crowd of people—superb music and strawberries (150 quarts were given me, all the cream, flowers, etc.). I took in \$70; some necessary expenses took my profits down to \$60. As I had to meet a bill of \$144, it helped me that much and encouraged me to attempt another."

The Davenport Chapters of the Agassiz Association were formed about this time. Mrs. Putnam was naturally much interested in their meetings at the Academy and often attended them, reading to them from "Walks Around My Garden" and other books. They frequently spent the day at "Woodlawn." Mrs. Putnam always wanted the children to come to the Academy. She writes: "The lot was given on the twenty-second of February; the building dedicated on the next twenty-second; children entertained the next, and every year this has been our 'Saint's Day.' We expect 500 children" [at the entertainment she was planning]. In the summer of 1886 the National Convention of the Agassiz Association had a most successful meeting in Davenport; over one hundred delegates were entertained.

April 2, 1886, she writes: "Printers do go so slow [all of Vol. IV not finished]. Yet I have commenced another, Vol. V, and have eight pages printed; but a gentleman has given us such a splendid paper to be fully illustrated, and so many of our members subscribed at once, that I am not going to have the same trouble with Vol. V. It is just splendid, too, that our publication goes straight on. As soon as one volume is done another begins, and once in three years we bring out our latest thought. Vol. IV is making for us a splendid record—so I think one thousand more books will come into our library this year. Two thousand came last year. We have to-day received a beautiful collection of shells and minerals. I attended a meeting for birds this afternoon. It is dreadful, the slaughter of the innocents. I visited seven ladies, all of whom promised to take them off their hats. Fifty ladies signed a paper for the same." Never afterwards would Mrs. Putnam wear aigrette or wing in her bonnet.

There always was need for money, and on July 13, 1886, another lawn fête was given for the benefit of the Academy, at "Woodlawn." Mrs. Putnam writes on June 14th: "It will be about nine years since my last "Kettledrum," and that is still remembered by everyone. Great changes have occurred in my home since then. . . . When I think of all I have lost in these nine years my heart shrinks from the effort, but it must be done. I must work to live; the Academy must have money, and who will give it to us? So I am bound to go through with it. This "Mid-Summer's Night's Fête," as it was called, was successful in every way.

Mrs. Putnam was most modest about her own abilities. On October 17, 1886, she writes: "I was much interested in your account of the robins. I am sorry I have not studied the habits of birds and animals as I would have done had I been a woman of leisure. But the fitting of these young lives to cope with the world, the impressing their natures with the love of truth, and forming their characters for noble aims, has been the engrossing work of my life, and the little I have done for the scientific world is to oil the wheels of this institution by getting money to carry out the scientific thought of my beloved son Duncan and his associates. His monument he builded himself. God grant it may grow more worthy of his noble life and as years roll on take the hold of the people his sacrifices entitle it to."

It was felt that there should be some permanent basis to pay the salary of the curator, besides a yearly subscription and the dues of the members, so Mrs. Putnam reported to the Board of Trustees, on November 25, 1886, a plan to "raise an annual subscription of \$400 a year—for five years—to provide for the support of the Academy and obviate repeated appeals to the public." This plan received, according to the Proceedings, "the approbation of the Trustees," and Mrs. Putnam was appointed to raise the amount.

The old subscription paper is still preserved, the worn edges testifying to the faithful service it did as it made its yearly rounds. The mute signatures tell little of the part they played in tiding the Academy over the most critical part of its history. Many of the early enthusiastic members had died; there was little interest felt in the institution by the majority of citizens. No one knows the number of times Mrs. Putnam was advised to close the doors and simply let it die. The subscription paper stands a monument to her indomitable perseverance and courage.

Of the efforts to raise this money Mrs. Putnam writes to her husband on December 10, 1886: . . . "Oh, that I could know some of the mysterious joys of a true scientist and a true artist, but I don't believe it was meant I should classify or arrange anything unless maybe a subscription paper; this I have done of late to my great satisfaction and have more than one-half of what I expected pledged for the coming year of the Academy. . . and then if they sign for five years they may some of them remember

us in their wills—anything we give to for five years we love, you know; and if we tide our beloved son's Academy over these five years, as we have the last since he left us, I really think it will be taken care of, don't you?" And again on January 2, 1887, to her sister-in-law, Mrs. Mary P. Bull: "\$350 a year has been subscribed without much effort. I shall hope to get at least \$400 before another week, but I have been too busy sewing to attend much to other matters. . . . I often wish I were rich. I would never see that boy's institution suffer for the want of so little; but it will be endowed some day; and his name will live as it ought to live when marble monuments have perished and monumental fortunes have crumbled away. The memory of my beloved Duncan will live for ever in the hearts of all who knew and could appreciate his gentle, quiet, and scientific nature. It is five years since we laid him away, but oh! how his presence haunts my dreams, how often I think of him and long for the touch of that vanished hand."

The last \$50 of this subscription was raised by Major McClelland for Mrs. Putnam, who was ill at home, but who writes on hearing that the entire sum was raised: "I never felt more happy than to-night for I feel sure now the Academy has a future."

On the morning of June 3, 1887, the beautiful home of "Woodlawn" was destroyed by fire. None of the family were at home. Mrs. Putnam was in Chicago. It was decided to camp out for the summer in the gardener's cottage on the hill. Both Mr. and Mrs. Putnam took up the readjustment of their household in the changed surroundings, with their usual quiet courage, Mrs. Putnam making a cosy home with the few things saved from the fire. She lamented the loss of the drawings and writings of her son Duncan, and of Mr. Putnam's unpublished literary papers, the work of a lifetime, but she felt that as long as the family circle remained unbroken, there was a bright side to the disaster. This comfort was soon taken away, as six weeks later, on July 19, 1887, her husband, Charles E. Putnam, died after a short illness.

Mr. Putnam was a man of strong personality. He had been a prominent lawyer, President of the Davenport Savings Bank for fourteen years and had written the Savings Bank Law which was adopted by the State of Iowa, and is still in force. He was

President of the Gas Company, the Plow Company, and of numerous other organizations. He had infinite tact and a wonderfully quick mind that grasped the essentials of a subject at once and enabled him to carry on so many and varied lines of work. He had a strong love for literature and accumulated a large and well selected library. His leisure hours, for years, were spent in literary work. He followed his children's occupations with the same interest as his wife, and through his son Duncan became interested in science. He was President of the Davenport Academy of Sciences in 1885 and 1886, on its finance committee for years, and trustee for fourteen years. He was a man of broad sympathies, and every good work received support from him. Much of the work that Mrs. Putnam accomplished is due, no doubt, to the encouragement and sympathy she received at home.

Their married life of thirty-three years had been so congenial and ideal that his death would have been a deep sorrow at any time, but especially so after the loss of their home and with the uncertainties of the future. After a few weeks the widow, left with six sons and one daughter, roused herself from her grief and writes to her sister: "The work of life must go on; these dear children must be helped to maturity. I have made up my mind to go to town each day and do my duty for my children." In the fall of this year the family moved to a house in town, where Mrs. Putnam lived the remainder of her life.

The next winter she interested herself to see that the salary of Mr. Pratt, the faithful curator, was paid.

Mrs. Putnam and her daughter sailed for Europe October 3, 1889. On the morning she left Davenport, Dr. C. C. Parry, ever a staunch friend of the publication, brought the last sheets of the Proceedings, still wet with the printer's ink, to the train, where other members of the Academy gathered. It was the last time many of the old friends met.

The trip abroad was prolonged beyond the original plan on account of Mrs. Putnam's poor health. She took an intense interest in everything abroad, especially the customs and life of the people. She had painted in her younger days, and always had an instinctive taste for the best in art. The galleries were a constant source of pleasure to her. She visited the museums, and was delighted when she found the Proceedings of the Academy

in the libraries. She had a great gift of attracting people to her and everywhere made warm friends. She was the most delightful of travelling companions, and could relate her experiences in a lively, vivacious manner. She was rarely gifted as a conversationalist. As a friend remarked, they would hear something interesting when Mrs. Putnam returned, not of the trivial discomforts of the journey.

This was her longest trip away from home. From girlhood she had been a frequent traveller, enjoying the opportunity to see things and even more to meet people. But she never forgot the interests of home. Mrs. Putnam writes from Paris, in May, 1891, just before sailing for home: "The more I see of this life abroad the more I am convinced the true life is at home and the greatest glory of a woman is to grace her own fireside." As soon as she arrived in New York she writes: "Home! oh, you never can know what that word means to one unless you have been away so long. All America seems home to me—now I have touched my native land, I am perfectly happy."

She missed many old friends upon her return to Davenport. Dr. C. C. Parry, who had been closely associated with her son, Duncan, had died; Mr. Pratt had removed to Minneapolis, where he died two years later. Dr. Barris, one of the few of the old members left, had been appointed curator.

Mrs. Putnam was just in time to start a new five years' subscription paper. On December 18, 1891, she writes to Mr. Pratt: "I have taken up the role of presenting the \$400 list to my friends in behalf of the beloved Academy—shall I call it a success? In about three weeks I have \$300 on the five years' subscription, from 1892 to 1896, and \$60 on this year . . . but I shall have to wait a little while until I recover from a refusal from —— and a very few poor men like him! It will do me good to wait and consider, it was such easy sailing. People met me more than half way. I own up I went first to the old and tried friends of the Academy. . . . We owed the curator \$300 when I came home; by January first I think we can almost pay last year's salary, but oh, we must get enough to keep him next year, and next, and next, for five years, and then the \$120 for the Index—we must have that, you see . . . and then the binding and distributing! will we wait forever for the endowment! . . . I wish I could do something in

my small way to make the annual meeting a worthy meeting, worthy the spirit of the past. What an interest we used to feel, what palpitations of the heart lest all the reports should not be up to the standard. What a full life we are leading, and how little we know it."

Four times did Mrs. Putnam secure this assured income to the Academy; the last time in 1902, the year of her death. This was for a larger amount, eight hundred dollars; and by this means the Academy was enabled to secure the whole time of a curator, and started on its new era of prosperity. Once when a friend had spoken to Mrs. Putnam about leaving something to the Academy, she wrote: "I wish he would just give it now and spend it himself." She was ever eager to see immediate results.

On November 23, 1892, there is a letter to "My dear friend Mr. Pratt: Do you remember the long ago—when the spirit of unrest drove me to make a commotion in the dear old Academy building, and desks and cases were moved, and decorations were hung—a piano brought in, and flying feet did the work of busier brains, and all was commotion for one day or two and disorder for a week or so afterwards, at least you and Duncan used to declare you could find nothing. . . . Well, I have been strongly reminded the last month of these dear old commotions and upsettings, yet with many differences. Then the object was always to make some money—now it is alone to spend it; then the movement and stir was witnessed by loving eyes who followed in sad disapproval, with a lurking smile of satisfaction at the known results; now no loving eye has followed—no helping hand has lifted itself—no laughing, warning voice has been uplifted that this must be the *very last* entertainment in the Academy. Alas, the last gatherings there have been funerals, and the stillness of the grave has followed my lonely steps as I have plodded along. . . . I have only touched on the outside of it all [in the cleaning]. I feel as though I had lived over twenty years in this month. . . . I have put Prof. Starr's paper in the printer's hands Monday of this week—made the same bargain as for Vol. V; and while there is not a cent to begin paying the printer, I have faith that by the time the first form is printed the money will be forthcoming."

This cleaning was preparatory to the celebration of the twenty-

fifth anniversary of the founding of the Academy. The day before, on December 13, 1892, Mrs. Putnam writes, "I'm so sorry I undertook the Academy entertainment just now, but a twenty-fifth anniversary does not often occur. The weather is beastly, yet I have to go out in it for the last things. Think of us to-morrow." That afternoon Mrs. Putnam was injured in a fall from a street car and was unable to go to the entertainment. A few days later she writes, "I love the Academy better to-day than when my dying boy almost breathed its name with 'Mother' from his parting breath—it was his legacy to me. When I thought I was killed the other day I was glad that the Academy had a new coat of paint on it. . . My back troubles me some. I think almost more than at first. Yet I go out every day and try to think I am not hurt."

At this time Mrs. Walworth, one of the founders of the Daughters of the American Revolution, induced Mrs. Putnam to become the first State Regent of Iowa.

In 1895 Mrs. Putnam was left a bequest by her sister-in-law, Mrs. Mary Putnam Bull of Tarrytown, New York, of the sum of ten thousand dollars, "as a memorial to my brother, Charles E. Putnam, and my nephew, J. Duncan Putnam." It was Mrs. Bull's idea to have part of it used in erecting a monument in the cemetery. Mrs. Putnam placed a large glacial boulder, found on the banks of the Mississippi, to mark the resting place of these two men of simple tastes. The inheritance tax of the State of New York was five hundred dollars and Mrs. Putnam gave the remainder, nine thousand five hundred dollars, to the Academy, establishing the Putnam Memorial Fund, the income to be used toward carrying on the publications of the Academy. No more fitting memorial could be found in view of the long and intimate association of father and son with the Academy.

Previous to this time the publication had had a struggle for existence. The six volumes published prior to 1895 had cost over eight thousand dollars and this entire sum had been raised by three- and five-dollar subscriptions to the volumes, obtained by repeated solicitation by Mrs. Putnam. A very few, like Prof. Sheldon, gave generously. Sometimes the money came so unexpectedly that Mrs. Putnam was wont to say "it sifted down from heaven." When publishing Vol. IV, she writes, "I find people

now understand what publishing proceedings means and are interested at once and willing to help. I have met with great success, without begging in the least. The publication now stands on its own merits."

Mrs. Putnam spent the summer of 1897 in Europe with two of her children, travelling leisurely from Norway to Italy.

On December 11, 1897, Mrs. Putnam writes of celebrating the thirtieth anniversary of the Academy on the 14th, "by a simple reception at Academy afternoon and evening. For days I have cleaned up things. I hope to close this year with every bill settled and all dues collected. The contract for the new [Presbyterian] church was let yesterday. They have offered the old building to me for the Academy for \$5,000,—a great bargain, I think." Four years before, on September 10, 1893, there is mention in a letter of Mrs. Putnam's of the importance of the Academy owning the property on the corner, when the Presbyterian Church removed to other quarters, as they would eventually do.

She never lost sight of this project, and patiently and persistently worked till she persuaded the trustees to see it from her point of view. The Academy owned land on the north for future building purposes, and many thought the old church building would only be an incubus. A few far-sighted trustees realized it was a good investment at least. It has proved a most wise one. There is a hall for lectures and a high basement to contain part of the ever increasing museum. If the Academy had not bought it a large apartment building would have been erected, cutting off light and sunshine from the Museum. It preserves for the Academy one of the most commanding corners in Davenport. The Trustees of the church most generously placed a much lower price on the property than they could have obtained from other parties. On April 3, 1898, Mrs. Putnam writes: "Mr. Cutter says the Jewish Synagogue came to ask the price and wanted to buy the church, but when they heard Mrs. Putnam wanted it for the Academy, they would not make an offer." The Trustees of the Academy bought the church property in 1899.

On December 3, 1899, after the close of the last service held by the Presbyterian church in the building, Dr. Donaldson stepped from the pulpit and handed the key to Mrs. Putnam, then the

oldest living member of the church, who received it on behalf of the Academy. Upon taking the key she said: "No words of mine can adequately express my feelings in accepting the key of this old church, which so many hallowed associations have endeared to me, or of the gratification I feel in knowing my interest in it is not entirely to cease, as this key will pass into the custody of the Davenport Academy of Natural Sciences, an institution which, next my family and my church, holds the dearest place in my heart."

The purchase of the old church entailed an enormous amount of work. The first problem was how to pay for it. Mrs. Putnam was aided in raising the money by the Hon. C. A. Ficke. It was decided to connect the two buildings by a passage way, large enough to be used for museum purposes. Mr. E. S. Hammatt and Mr. A. F. Cutter superintended the construction, while that of cleaning and arranging the two buildings was done by Mrs. Putnam. Griswold College was disbanded at this time, and Bishop Morrison and the trustees of the college generously gave its valuable scientific collection and library to the Academy. With this added space, the Academy could exhibit the collection at once. The work of moving the collection was very great. Mr. C. E. Harrison attended to the transporting and sorting of the books, but for weeks Mrs. Putnam was busy superintending the transfer and arrangement of the collection. All this made the summer a busy one. Mrs. Putnam secured the services of a trained librarian, who began the arrangement and cataloguing of the library, disturbing the dust of years. It was realized as never before what a rare and valuable library the Academy possessed. During all the years that the publication of the Academy proceedings had been going on, laboriously but perseveringly, the library had been steadily growing. Foreign societies had been sending their publications in exchange, thus proving the foresight of those members who inaugurated the printing of original scientific papers by the Academy.

The start made in cataloguing the library has been kept up by Miss Foote-Sheldon, so that now the large collection of books is available for use by scientific students.

On the thirty-third anniversary of the founding of the Academy, December 14, 1900, Science Hall, the new lecture room, was

dedicated. President MacLean and Prof. C. C. Nutting of the State University of Iowa, came from Iowa City, and Prof. Frederick Starr, from the University of Chicago, gave a lecture. Letters from scientific friends all over the country were read, congratulating the Academy on the work achieved during its existence of a third of a century.

As one of the tributes, Prof. Nutting read the following poem:

THE STORY OF TWO WOMEN.

There was a woman on whose heart was pressed the heavy hand of Sorrow.
Her heart was bruised, her head was bowed, her life bereft of hope and light.
This woman was not strong, and so she sat her down and cried:

"Woe has come upon me, and my love lies dead, his work unfinished.
No more is heard his name upon the lips of men. With him is Hope entombed.

Henceforth my life shall be devoid of light, and o'er his grave I'll place
A broken shaft to show the incompleteness of his life cut short of full fruition."

And so it was. Her life was void. His name forgotten in the homes of men.

Again there was a woman on whose heart was pressed the heavy hand of Sorrow.

Her heart was sore, her head bowed low, her life bereft of light.
But strong this woman was, and brave, and she stood up amid the stress
Of this her dire calamity, and gazed undaunted on the face of Sorrow.

"My love shall live!" she said. "His work unfinished I take up. My life
I give

To see his hope fulfilled. His name shall still be spoken in the courts
Of Wisdom, and a monument I'll raise to show fruition of his cherished hopes."

And so it was. And wise men came to bring her aid. And lo! Her life
was full

Of light and blessed with fruitful works. No broken shaft raised she
Above his tomb. Instead she reared a monument enduring as is Truth
eternal.

And the wise men bring their tribute of their learning to this shrine.

His name is honored still in Wisdom's court. His work complete. His
hope fulfilled,

And Sorrow, conquered, chastened, owns the sway of Love.

Soon after Mrs. Putnam's return in May, 1901, from California, where she had spent several months for the benefit of her health,

occurred the death of Dr. Barris, an early member, ex-President, and curator of the Academy. He had ever been a faithful friend to Mrs. Putnam, one who encouraged her by his hopeful conversation and charming personality to go on with her work. The death of Dr. Barris left but two out of the group of the early active members: Dr. C. H. Preston, who has been a member of the Publication Committee from its inception and who has ever taken a deep interest in the affairs of the Academy, and Mr. C. E. Harrison, who has given generously of his time and energy to further its success, working with the same loyal interest during the years of discouragement as during those of prosperity. As the office of curator was now vacant, and as the five years' subscription paper expired at this time, some of the most prominent citizens again advocated the closing of the Academy. Instead, Mrs. Putnam arranged to have the present curator of the Academy, Mr. J. H. Paarmann, then a student at the University of Iowa, come to Davenport and remount, classify, and label the fine collection of birds in the museum.

In August of this year Mrs. Putnam, accompanied by her daughter, attended the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, at Denver. Later, at Glenwood Springs, Colorado, she met with a serious carriage accident which nearly proved fatal, and from the effects of which she never entirely recovered. As she lay helpless, being unable to move for weeks after her return, her mind was full of plans for the "beloved Academy." Among other things she arranged for a course of popular scientific lectures, which was successfully given after Christmas. This was the beginning of the courses which have since become an annual feature of the Academy's work.

In the meantime, how to provide for and find a curator? No sooner was Mrs. Putnam able to move than with painful but unflinching steps she visited the faithful patrons of the Academy and raised the sum of eight hundred dollars for five years, double the amount raised in previous years. In April, 1902, Mr. J. H. Paarmann was appointed Curator, upon which office he entered the following July. He began, in the fall, a series of talks to the school children, illustrated by specimens from the Academy's collections. This was a project in which Mrs. Putnam had always taken deep interest.

After this work was started Mrs. Putnam and her daughter spent several months in California. A letter written to her brother, Mr. J. Duncan, from Del Monte, March 25, 1902, tells of her nervousness in driving (a natural sequence to her terrible accident a few months previously), and of her success in conquering this feeling: "We took the seventeen-mile drive along the Pacific. I never enjoyed a drive more in my life and I think it was because I had entirely mastered myself and my fear of mountain drives. I thought it all over in the night and when the carriage came round, with five seats beside the driver's, and the rest were all ready, I quietly put on my things and astonished them all by taking my seat in the exact position I sat in when the accident occurred last September. One place, where the road ascended a very steep place and turned on top and came down a very abrupt descent, I thought I would get out and wait; but I had started out to conquer, and so I sat still. I must say I drew a long breath when we reached the bottom, but I was master of myself and that is what I long to be above every other thing."

The summer was spent at home, where Mrs. Putnam took up her work for the Academy with her old enthusiasm, taking great interest in the labors of Mr. Paarmann in his new office as Curator. In August she arranged for a successful concert, given by the musicians of Davenport for the benefit of the Academy.

Mrs. Putnam, accompanied by her daughter, attended the meeting of the Americanists in New York in October of this year. She enjoyed meeting old friends and making new ones, listening to scientific papers; but, on looking back, one realizes that while the spirit was as eager to enjoy and impart, the body was growing weaker. The journey was continued to Boston, where she met many old friends, and revived memories of her visits there with her son Duncan. It was her last journey.

Mrs. Putnam was elected a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, at the December meeting, 1902, in Washington. This unexpected honor greatly pleased her, though she felt herself undeserving it. But, as one of her scientific friends has said, "to whom could it have been more worthily given than to her who had striven so loyally for the advancement of science?"

The Academy was in urgent need of a stereopticon, to use in

the talks Mr. Paarmann gave to the school children; and on January 3, 1903, Mrs. Putnam writes: "Every day I receive money (as the sparks fly out of the fire at me) for the stereopticon. I have written a short report for the annual meeting. We have \$148 in the bank and not a bill to pay, left from last year." On February 14, through gifts of generous friends, she succeeded in paying \$1,000 on a note against the Academy. It was a happy morning for her, as she realized the Academy was now on a better financial basis, besides beginning active educational work.

An exhibition of Indian basketry, planned and managed by Mrs. Putnam, was opened at the Academy on the nineteenth of February. A much larger collection of baskets had been gathered than was expected, and the building was effectively decorated with mats, blankets, and examples of weaving. On the second day of the exhibition, Friday, February 20, 1903, Mrs. Putnam was the life of the company. Some one suggested having a loan exhibition of lace; and her quick mind seized the idea, and with her old-time enthusiasm, in bidding a friend goodby, she said, "You must come next month to our lace exhibit."

Mrs. Putnam returned home at twilight and, sitting before the open fire, talked of the events of the afternoon, of the meeting with old friends; that it was the most beautiful exhibition ever given in Davenport; what a pleasure the day had been. She went to her room to rest. A Final Rest it was. Painlessly and silently she passed into the World Beyond—a world in which she firmly believed she was to meet her beloved family and the son for whose sake she labored so faithfully in the upbuilding of the Academy.

With kindly thought of friends and with her last hours spent in the institution that had become an integral part of her life, the day was a beautiful closing to a full and unselfish life.

A few days later Science Hall, the old Presbyterian church, which had been so intimately connected with Mrs. Putnam's life, was filled with family friends and citizens, gathered for the simple but impressive funeral exercises. Rev. Dr. John B. Donaldson of the First Presbyterian Church, her pastor, and the Rt. Rev. T. N. Morrison, Bishop of Iowa, an old family friend, conducted the services. Mrs. Putnam was broad-minded in religion as in all the affairs of life, so it seemed fitting that the last services for

her should be conducted by clergymen of different denominations, as had been the case with her husband and eldest son.

Mrs. Putnam was survived by six sons—Charles Morgan, of Minneapolis; Henry St. Clair, a consulting electrical engineer in New York; William Clement, a lawyer in Davenport; George Rockwell, in charge of the United States Coast Survey work in the Philippine Islands; Edward Kirby, in the English Department in Leland Stanford Junior University, California; Benjamin Risley, a mining engineer in Butte, Montana, and by one daughter, Elizabeth Duncan.

Her children having already been provided for, Mrs. Putnam left her entire estate to establish a Putnam Memorial Fund for the benefit of the Davenport Academy of Sciences, subject to an annuity which was waived by her daughter, Elizabeth Duncan Putnam, and to certain other obligations which were assumed by her son, William Clement Putnam. By the terms of her will this fund, amounting in all to about twenty-four thousand dollars, is to be held in trust for the Academy by a board of three trustees and the income is to be used primarily for the publication of scientific papers.

Emphasis has been placed upon Mrs. Putnam's connection with the Academy of Sciences, of which she was President in 1879 and again from 1900 until the time of her death, Treasurer from 1897 to 1900, and Chairman of the Publication Committee from 1881 to 1903. There is a remarkable human interest in Mrs. Putnam's work for the Academy, growing as it did out of her love for her oldest child. To quote the words of a friend: "We all remember vividly the noble and beautiful mother of that large family, who yet found time out of the devotion to her children and her abounding hospitality to magnetize a careless western community and inspire them to rear an institution devoted to pure science. She began the work for the sake of her son. Young as he was, Duncan Putnam had done work of recognized value the world over; and he did the best of it conscious of his sentence of death, but working doggedly with his last strength. To comfort him his mother threw all her splendid vitality and energy into his plans."

But absorbing and exacting as was this interest in the Academy, it by no means measured the breadth of her sympathies and activity. Another friend writes of her: "Because she gave

so much of herself to the Academy did not mean she had less to give to other things; on the other hand, her love for that institution seemed to increase her endowment, to broaden and enrich her spirit, so that other things profited rather than lost thereby. Her great purpose did not cause her to lose her sense of values. Indeed, the charm of her personality was in its many-sidedness. Her love of the beautiful in nature and art, her keen interest in people, and her inspiring belief in them,—all of these things seemed to be stimulated rather than stifled by her great enthusiasm."

In this many-sided life the key-note was always the home. The first duty of every woman, Mrs. Putnam felt, was to her family. From the days when she was a boon companion to her "blue-eyed banditti," as she called her children, entering into all their sports, even to the setting of type, to the days when they had grown to manhood, each varied occupation and experience of theirs received her sympathy and enthusiastic interest.

In her country home Mrs. Putnam delighted to have friends come and share the simple every-day life of the family. It was ever a joy to her to do kind actions. It required no special effort, because it was perfectly natural.

Mrs. Putnam always found time to be interested in the aims and work of others. A chance remark of hers would leave an indelible impression. Many an incident has come to light showing the influence a word or two spoken by her had on the course of a young life.

Sincere indeed was Mrs. Putnam's interest in those causes that touch the human heart. Instances of this have already been mentioned. She was always active in church work and, while seldom talking about religion, lived her christianity in every-day life. She was for several years president of the Home Missionary Society of the Presbytery. She was a charter member of the Ladies' Aid Society to educate young girls, of the Associated Charities of Davenport, and of other similar organizations. She was largely instrumental in bringing a police matron to Davenport. When it was decided to close all the stores in the city at six o'clock in the evening so that the clerks would not be overworked, it was Mrs. Putnam who persuaded the last obdurate owners to sign the agreement. It was this sincere and sympa-

thetic interest in humanity, as well as her personal interest in all whom she knew, even though casually, that made her hosts of friends and endeared her to the people of her home city and to all who came to know her. A friend writes: "No one woman stood for all that she did in the community, the sympathizer with every good work, the originator of many, the presiding genius of the Academy, and, what made this vital and enduring, a rarely beautiful Christian character."

Out of the crowded memories of the past comes a vision of a woman of medium height, clear blue eyes; a well-poised head, crowned with beautiful silver-white hair; an alert, light step; a vivacious manner and quick intellect that may have come from some far away Huguenot ancestor; a voice of unusually sweet and gentle modulation, the whole personality lighted by a smile full of sympathy and enjoyment of life.

Sorrow had written its history on her face, but it was illumined when she talked or listened to others. Although endowed with a rare social instinct and delighting in the contact with her fellows, she was a great lover of nature. Many a sunrise and sunset she watched in Europe, the dawn coming upon the Jungfrau, or the marvellous afterglow at sunset,—a symbol of the resurrection, as she expressed it. Many of her letters from "Woodlawn" are dated "at sunrise." The quiet communing with nature and reading one of the beloved Psalms of David gave her the peace and strength to plan her work for the day, and with a refreshing sleep afterwards she arose bright and sunny as the morning itself. She was one of the most natural of women, perfectly unconscious of self. What people might think of her simply never occurred to her. What they thought of her children or of the Academy was another matter.

Mrs. Putnam's early life, fatherless and with an invalid mother, had developed a naturally forceful character. A happy marriage brought out all the sweeter, unselfish qualities of her nature. She writes, early in her life, "God formed me with a heart so large that even a husband's and children's love does not fill it full to overflowing." She could always enter into the trials and sorrows of others with an unusual sympathy. She was ever a friend to the poor, treating them with a rare equality. The accident of riches was nothing to her,—"A man's a man for a' that." If

people were dull and selfish, though they might have all the world's goods, they were perfectly uninteresting to her. Gossip and unkind remarks were never heard from Mrs. Putnam. She felt that there were so many interesting things in the world to talk about, why waste time in matters worse than trivial. She often quoted the saying "Blessed is the man or woman with a hobby," feeling that the interest in outside affairs broadened the home life and, when sorrows came, enabled a person to rise above them, in work for others. As a friend said, "She was a woman who was not afraid to live up to her convictions." This fearless, unselfish character was what enabled her to go on with the work of the Academy, when a weaker woman would have been discouraged at the difficulties and would have counted the cost and personal sacrifice.

With her earnest purpose and unselfish devotion, Mrs. Putnam was enabled in her well-rounded life of three score and ten years to crystalize her high ideals into permanent results. She was of a most hopeful, cheerful disposition, and while she remembered the past and while it influenced strongly her life, she lived in the present, planning for the future.

Her children arise up and call her blessed.

Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates.

DAVENPORT, IOWA, December 14, 1905.



W. L. Purnham

WILLIAM CLEMENT PUTNAM

WILLIAM CLEMENT PUTNAM

A MEMOIR

BY ELIZABETH DUNCAN PUTNAM

On the western banks of the Mississippi, on the bluffs overlooking the broad river, lies the town of Davenport, in Iowa. The scene is one of quiet beauty, with the river winding onward, peacefully and majestically, amid the encircling hills. Here was born on the twenty-sixth day of June, 1862, William Clement Putnam, the fifth son of Charles Edwin Putnam and Mary Louisa Duncan, his wife.

Brief was his life as the years are told, but into his forty-three years he crowded the work and achievement of a long life. The same traits of foresight, courage, energy and perseverance that had sent his ancestors from their homes in Massachusetts and Virginia to develop new lands, kept him in his native city and enabled him to build up a fortune and leave it for the benefit of Davenport. Descended on his father's side from New England families, men and women who led industrious, simple lives, and on the mother's side from Scotch and Virginians, into whose lives had come much of interesting adventure and history, his own character shows a combination of the traits of both families.

The incidents of Mr. Putnam's life were few. He lived and died in his native city. The first twenty-five years were spent at Woodlawn, a beautiful country place overlooking the Mississippi, about two miles from the center of Davenport. The family life of father, mother, ten sons and one daughter has been graphically portrayed in the letters of his mother, who did much to encourage the children to follow their individual tastes.

Especially strong and decided, even in childhood, were the characteristics of Mr. Putnam. It is interesting, in reading his

early letters, to see indications of the traits of later years. The boy of nine writes to his father, "Now, about the money question," and upon receiving the remittance, thanks him and adds, "I hope I shall not spend it foolishly." His early interest in politics is shown by a letter written a month later to his father, in which he begins, "Hurrah for Grant;" and upon hearing of his father's politics he writes, "I am sorry you like Horace Greeley so much."

Surrounded by his father's large and well selected library and brought up in "a reading family," it was only natural that his latent love for books and knowledge should develop early in life. For many years, by rising early in the morning and retiring late at night, he accomplished an enormous amount of systematic reading of the standard authors. He had a retentive memory, especially for facts and information, and during these years of boyhood amassed a store of knowledge from which he drew at will in later life.

His oldest brother, Duncan, was, at this time, collecting insects and carrying on his scientific work. He took great interest in the occupations of his younger brothers and it is no doubt largely through his influence and through the constant encouragement of his father and mother that Clement Putnam began his collections and interest in outside affairs. An historical society was organized among the brothers at Woodlawn and papers were read at the meetings. Clement Putnam was the dominant and persevering member that carried the society through its existence.

Very early he began to collect material for local history. This interest was developed by a visit to his mother's former home, Jacksonville, Illinois. He met many old friends of his grandfather, Governor Duncan, and gained from them an impetus to his interest in historical subjects. He planned at this time, when only eleven years old, to write a biography of his grandfather. Unfortunately he did not carry out his boyish plan, though he never lost sight of it. He constantly collected material and facts and looked forward to the time when he would have an opportunity to write. When sixteen, he was interviewing old settlers and buying books about the Black Hawk War. His letters show his exact and intimate knowledge of where old books could be bought and of their relative value.

When a copy of Wakefield's "History of the War Between the United States and the Sac and Fox Nations of Indians" was loaned him, he writes on November 26th, 1878: "I was too much interested in the other book [Wakefield's History] to think about it [Cunningham's Lives] at first. I could scarcely believe my eyes when I saw what book it was, for I knew it was Wakefield's book instantly although the title page is gone. I have every other book of importance upon the Black Hawk War except this one and I never expected to have this one in my possession even for a short time, as it is one of the rarest western books ever published, besides being of great value in itself . . . It is to me the most precious relic of a bygone age . . . Before returning it I would first like to make some extracts from it concerning those things which are of the greatest interest to me, though I am afraid I would never know where to stop, so much am I interested in everything of which it treats." He copied the entire book.

Again on January 13th, 1885, he writes: "I have always had a great passion for old papers and autographs and have already a large and valuable collection. As soon as my collection of grandfather's papers is complete I intend to arrange them and have them bound in volumes."

With his love of collecting came a strong ambition to write. At the age of ten he had written a tragedy of five acts which was acted on an amateur stage at Woodlawn. This was followed by plans for various works in history, but unfortunately his busy life did not enable him to accomplish all he hoped.

Mr. Putnam was educated at the public schools in Davenport and was graduated from the High School in 1880. When but eleven he had decided upon becoming a lawyer. He was ambitious to go first to college, but feeling that his father needed his help, he laid aside this dream and entered the law office of Putnam and Rogers. This prompt and decisive response of the boy to what he felt was a call of duty was characteristic of the man. One wonders what the effect of a university education would have been upon his mind, so eager and enthusiastic for knowledge. He himself always regretted the loss. He spent two years in his father's law office before going to Iowa City to attend the law school of the State University of Iowa, from which he

was graduated in 1883. He was chosen one of the orators of his class, his subject being, "The State." He assisted Chancellor McClain in preparing his "Outlines of Criminal Law and Procedure," published in 1883. He selected cases and "showed a rare judgment for a law student in his first year of study." Soon after his return his father took him into partnership, the firm name being Putnam and Putnam. The next few years were spent in close application to business and devotion to duty.

On the third of June, 1887, the house at Woodlawn was destroyed by fire. All of Mr. Putnam's historical books, manuscripts and valuable collection of old letters relating to western history were burned. It was an irreparable loss. The death of his father, six weeks later, left the family in peculiarly sad and desolate circumstances and added new responsibilities to his life. He assumed the care of managing the affairs of his mother and brothers and sister, becoming the virtual head of the family. Nobly did he perform this duty. He arranged the finances so that his younger brothers received a college or technical education, and sold the old homestead to such advantage that his mother was placed in comfortable circumstances. In the autumn of this year the family moved into town. Mr. Putnam soon after bought the house in which they first lived and took great interest in improving the property and making it a family home. Into this house he gathered his constantly growing collection of books and works of art. He was an intense lover of home and enjoyed having his family with him, but unselfishly urged his mother and sister's taking an extensive European trip in 1889, and numerous other journeys.

Charles E. Putnam had numerous business interests besides his law practice. Clement Putnam succeeded his father as president in many of these organizations. Often the young man of twenty-five, who looked much younger than his years, presided at a meeting of gray-haired men, contemporaries of his father.

Charles E. Putnam had been agent for the property in Davenport belonging to Charles Velie of Evansville, Indiana. This consisted of a half block of buildings forming the old LeClaire, later the Newcomb, Block, in the center of the business district of Davenport. Clement Putnam assumed the management of it during his father's lifetime and later Mr. Velie, one of many of the loyal clients of his father, continued him in charge of his in-

terests. Thus he became familiar with it and when the opportunity offered, in 1895, to purchase the property, he realized its value and bought it. It is this property, with its large rental, that becomes the chief source of the income of his bequest to the Davenport Academy of Sciences. The improvement and care of these buildings gradually absorbed most of his time. From a financial standpoint it was most advantageous. Mr. Putnam had marked business ability, as is shown by his acquisition, in his short life, of a large fortune. His business interests, however, prevented him from becoming the distinguished lawyer that the few briefs and opinions he wrote indicate he might have been with the ability he possessed. He had a clear mind and forceful power of expression, and enjoyed the discussion of legal questions. Chancellor McClain, now Judge of the Supreme Court of Iowa, writes of him: "I regarded Mr. Putnam as having a mature and sound legal mind and urged him to undertake some legal writing, but he seemed too busy for it although it was in accordance with his tastes."

Business affairs necessitated frequent visits to New York and gave him, incidentally, an opportunity to come into closer touch with the literary and artistic world. Unconsciously these visits broadened his outlook on life. He was now able to buy the rare and beautiful books he had always loved. Even when his income was small, the few books he bought were chosen with care and he was beginning to plan and develop in his mind the scope of his future library. He took infinite pains in the selection of any book or picture, and his perseverance was remarkable. For years he was on the lookout for Wakefield's "History of the War," and at last, in 1902, he was rewarded and became the possessor of the little old yellow book that had aroused his enthusiasm as a boy.

He became interested in fine publications and illustrations and gradually collected a rare library on architecture, music and painting, besides general literature and history. Librarians have expressed interest in his library on account of its extent and range. Though guarding his books with zealous care, he was ever willing to loan them to any one studying a special subject, aiding them also by his own extensive knowledge.

After buying a few etchings in 1898 in New York, he became

interested in the subject and in time came to own a valuable collection of works by the best known etchers, besides almost every book on etching. He mastered the literature and technical criticism of the subject in the same thorough manner as he mastered everything he undertook.

Mr. Putnam commenced early in life to buy paintings, chiefly small good examples of modern artists. He writes on June 9th, 1891, "I want to add to my collection of paintings every year, laying the foundations for the Art Gallery I intend to have in my Castle in Spain when I build it." His art gallery was a dream unfulfilled for himself, but by the provisions of his will it will become a reality for the town he loved.

Mr. Putnam always looked forward to a time of leisure in which he could do the writing he planned. His extensive knowledge of western history, with his accurate mode of thought and expression, makes it a matter of deep regret that the only historical writing preserved is a short paper on "Davenport and Vicinity in the War of 1812," written in 1877, and read before the historical section of the Davenport Academy of Sciences. He wrote a memoir of his father, Charles E. Putnam, in 1898, published in Proceedings of the Academy, and three papers for the Contemporary Club, composed of the leading business and professional men of Davenport. The titles of the papers show the trend of his thought toward some of the questions of the day:

1898. "Some Problems of Modern Democracy."

1902. "Civic Beauty."

1905. "International Arbitration and the Peace Movement."

He possessed a clear, forceful style and a good command of the English language.

As the years went on, his interest in public affairs steadily increased. No question came up affecting the public welfare of Davenport but he took a deep interest in it and went to considerable personal sacrifice to achieve the end in view if it was for the betterment of the city. Never did his faith waver in the future of Davenport. He had high ideals and believed in planning and building for the future. The great fault, he felt, of the average citizen, was in letting franchises or laws pass unnoticed if they did not happen to affect his personal interest or pocket-book. It was only a very few who ever troubled themselves to

protest or be on the lookout for the best interests of the city. He himself took a deep interest in municipal affairs, especially in the city's parks and public institutions. Referring to the park system of Boston, Mr. Putnam writes: "Every one of us should lay the lesson of that noble work to our hearts and do what we can to make the city of our home the better and the more beautiful for our having lived in it."

There are copies of frequent letters written by Mr. Putnam to our United States senator about public affairs, especially protesting against the tariff on works of art. He felt that America needed all the art and beauty that could be imported to counteract our commercial spirit. When urged to help in the endowment of an eastern institution, he replied that whatever he did for art would be done in his native town. Here he hoped there might be a gallery, small but with a few choice paintings. In 1898 he was interested in selecting pictures and bas reliefs to decorate the two upper rooms in the grammar school attended by many members of the family. In 1905 he gave a full-sized frieze of Donatello's "Children" to the Public Library for the children's room. He also loaned them his carefully selected collection of a hundred large Braun photographs of the most famous paintings by artists of all countries and ages, framed and labeled.

Mr. Putnam was seldom away from Davenport. A boyhood journey to the Centennial, various business trips and one European tour complete the record of his journeys. His life is an example of steady application to business and shows how, with few opportunities of travel, can come the love of the best in art, music and literature. His only trip abroad was in 1903 when for seven months he travelled, with his sister, through the principal cities and countries of Europe. In looking back one realizes the reason of his intense enthusiasm and desire to see places of interest. For years he had worked perseveringly and read extensively and now when his holiday came he enjoyed it with the zest of a boy. Europe was never visited by a more appreciative or intelligent visitor. His familiarity with history, his love of architecture, painting and sculpture, his interest in people, customs, and the different institutions of the countries made the trip a memorable one. He considered this the beginning of many journeys. It was his only one.

From his early interest in the Historical section, Mr. Putnam became more interested in the Davenport Academy of Sciences. The untiring work for this institution of his brother Duncan, devotedly supported by his father and mother, all tended to influence a man of such loyal character as his to take up the work as one by one they laid it down. There was a deep and peculiar attachment between Clement Putnam and his mother, and it was for her sake especially he did so much for the Davenport Academy of Sciences. Even as a student at the law school he writes, urging that the affairs of the Academy be established on "a sound financial basis." After the death of his father he succeeded to his position of looking after the finances of the Academy, a position to which there were no rival claimants. When the treasury was empty Mr. Putnam, like his father, advanced the money to pay the bills, ever anxious that the credit of the Academy should stand unimpaired.

During the years from 1876 to 1880 he took a keen interest in the Historical Section of the Academy. He felt that the study of local history and the collection in its archives of local historical material should be an important feature of the Academy work. In his report as secretary of the Historical Section, on January 7th, 1880, he speaks of the gift of the papers of Antoine LeClaire, "many of them of the greatest value and importance in illustrating the early history of this region, and quite a number of old French papers of great interest. It is out of such material as this that the historian weaves his interesting narrative, and the value of these old manuscript collections cannot be too deeply appreciated. There have been deposited, in the library of the Section, files of New York papers published during the late war, and twenty-two volumes of the Davenport *Gazette* from its commencement. Next in order to collections of manuscripts, newspaper files are of great utility as historical material. But by far the most important work of this past year was the series of meetings of the old settlers of this county, held during the spring and summer at the Academy. As a result of these meetings and of circulars sent among the pioneer settlers still living, a large number of letters giving interesting narratives of early days have been sent to the president of the Section; others have been promised, and when the whole series has been completed it will form a store-

house filled with information which must otherwise have been lost."

Mr. Putnam was Trustee of the Academy from 1887 to his death, and was on the finance committee for fifteen years. His last act was to dictate the report of the finance committee for the annual meeting, announcing that after strenuous efforts the Academy was free from debt, and adding, "this is probably the first time since the founding of the Academy, nearly forty years ago, that this could be said, so we feel that the Academy is to be congratulated on its splendid financial condition; but people must remember that this is only a means of accomplishing still greater ends in the future, in developing the internal work of the Academy, in providing new cases and apparatus and assisting in the important work of the Academy in the schools." This report was dictated with difficulty and pain. Loyal was he even on his deathbed to the trust he felt his mother had left to him. His bequest to the Davenport Academy of Sciences crowns his mother's life work for this institution.

In the midst of enjoyment and activity in the present and plans for the future came his first and last illness. His strong will had kept him at work too long. There were only a few days of illness, serious from the first, with a rally to dictate his reports and give directions to donate a large collection of old and rare Arizona baskets to the Academy. His death came on the morning of January thirteenth, 1906.

Mr. Putnam was a man of strong personality. He combined the thoroughness and faculty of taking infinite pains with the greatest persistence and pleasure in overcoming all obstacles. Once started upon a subject, his determination never let him rest until he had mastered it thoroughly. In many traits he reminded one strongly of his mother. He had a great desire to acquire information from other people, and possessed the power of assimilation, so that anything once acquired was always useful. He had keen judgment and appreciation of literature, art and music. One might differ from him, but he was ever interesting. He was fearless in speech. He was generous and ready to aid in all good causes and help with counsel and personal interest in the affairs of any worthy person. He combined a great amount of sentiment, which he tried to conceal, with the clear-headed views of a

business man and lawyer. Those who knew him in his own home, surrounded by his books and pictures and talking with congenial friends, felt to the full the charm and power of Mr. Putnam.

His life, though unfinished, was more complete than many a longer one. Wisely and clearly he laid his plans for the future. Devoted to his family, home and city, he left his fortune, subject to annuities to his brothers and sister, and his collection of art, historical and scientific books, besides his paintings and sculpture, to trustees as an endowment for the Davenport Academy of Sciences, for the benefit of "the citizens of this community wherein my father and mother so long lived and labored for the public weal."

WILL OF MARY LOUISA DUNCAN PUTNAM

By the will of Mary Louisa Duncan Putnam her estate, subject to an annuity which was waived by her daughter, Elizabeth Duncan Putnam, and to certain other obligations which were assumed by her son, William Clement Putnam, is left to three trustees for the benefit of the Davenport Academy of Sciences. The trust, designated as the "Putnam Memorial Fund," is founded as a memorial to her husband, Charles Edwin Putnam, and her son Joseph Duncan Putnam.

By the terms of the trust William Clement Putnam is named as legal trustee during his life, his successors to be chosen by her surviving children, approved by the court, and, after the death of all the children, directly by the judge of the court. With him are to be associated two other trustees: one, her daughter, Elizabeth Duncan Putnam, and after her decease, one person to be chosen by the members of the Publication Committee of the Davenport Academy of Sciences, and the other, a person to be chosen by the Board of Trustees of the Academy, both of the last trustees, when so chosen, to be for a period of three years. The trustees of the trust fund are to make an annual report to the trustees of the Academy. The trustees shall use the net income from this trust fund as follows: Not to exceed ten (10) per cent in any one year may be used for the "care and preservation of, and additions to, the collection of entomological specimens and books made by my said son, Joseph Duncan Putnam, and now in the building of the said Academy." The balance of the income shall be used "for the publication and distribution of the papers and transactions of said Academy, which shall be of scientific, or ethnological, and (on special occasions if deemed desirable) of historical value and interest, and assist in the diffusion of knowledge, it being my desire generally that at least one paper in each volume published be upon some entomological subject." It is further provided that the trustees may use a portion of the income of the fund, not to exceed one-fourth in any one year,

“toward the payment of the salary of a curator of said Academy, if such use of a portion of said income in their opinion becomes necessary to properly maintain the work of said Academy. But I earnestly hope that the said Academy may in the near future receive a sufficiently large endowment from public-spirited citizens, or others, to enable it to properly carry on its great work aside from its publications, leaving the income from this trust fund to be used solely for the purpose for which the trust has been founded.”

WILL OF WILLIAM CLEMENT PUTNAM

In his will William Clement Putnam left his entire estate in trust for the benefit of the Davenport Academy of Sciences, naming as trustees of the fund thus created his brothers, Henry St. Clair Putnam, George Rockwell Putnam, Edward Kirby Putnam, Benjamin Risley Putnam, and his sister, Elizabeth Duncan Putnam. He provides first for the settlement of his estate and the preservation of his business and other property.

The homestead, with the personal property contained therein, is given to his sister during her life. After her decease the homestead is to revert to the estate, to be merged in the trust fund and the personal property is to be divided among relatives, "excepting however that when such distribution of my personal effects is made, either upon written notice from my said sister to my said Executors and Trustees, or the survivors of them, during her lifetime, or in any event upon her decease, I give and bequeath all my art, historical and scientific books, together with all my oil and water color paintings, etchings, engravings, drawings, sculpture and other works of art, to the Davenport Academy of Sciences of Davenport, Iowa, to be kept in a fire-proof art gallery in one of its buildings to be built as hereinafter provided, and I further direct that, after the completion of such fire-proof art gallery, my collection of English water colors shall be placed therein, as soon as possible, to prevent the risk of their destruction by fire, even before title thereto may pass pursuant to the above provisions. The gift of the foregoing books and works of art to the said Davenport Academy of Sciences is made upon the express condition that none of said books, pictures and other works of art, shall ever be sold or disposed of by said Academy or its successors."

Annuities are designated to be paid to his four brothers and sister in lieu of their compensation as executors and trustees, and provision is made for the rebuilding, with modern and fire-proof construction, of the buildings upon his business property. The fifth paragraph of the will then provides for the Academy as follows: "The balance remaining each year from the net income of all my

estate as aforesaid, I direct my said Executors and Trustees, or the survivors of them, to pay to the Trustees of the Putnam Memorial Fund of the Davenport Academy of Sciences, of the City of Davenport, Iowa, said Trustee and Board of Trustees being the ones designated in the Last Will and Testament of my mother, Mary L. D. Putnam, now deceased, such payments of income to be made as often as my said Executors and Trustees, or their survivors, may think best, but at least annually, and all of said balance of the net income arising from my estate to be used for the benefit of the said Davenport Academy of Sciences, or its successors, or otherwise, upon the terms and under the conditions in the Seventh paragraph of this Will particularly set forth."

The seventh paragraph of the will provides for the permanent maintenance of the trust fund and its use for the benefit of the Academy of Sciences:

"Seventh. Subject to the foregoing provisions of this Will, and as a memorial to my beloved parents, Charles Edwin Putnam, and Mary Louisa Duncan Putnam, deceased, I give, devise, and bequeath all of my estate, real, personal, and mixed, and wherever situated, upon the decease of the last survivor of my brothers and sister hereinbefore named, to the Trustee, and Board of Trustees, of the Putnam Memorial Fund, and to his and their successor or successors in trust forever, as the same are designated in the duly probated last will and testament of my mother, Mary L. D. Putnam, deceased, and as the same may be from time to time hereafter appointed, elected, and qualified, as is in my mother's said will provided, said property and estate to be held in the same manner in all respects as is in my mother's said will directed, for the benefit of the Davenport Academy of Sciences, of Davenport, Iowa, or its successors, and the income therefrom arising, together with the residuary income from my estate prior to the decease of all my brothers and sister hereinbefore named as provided in the Fifth paragraph of this Will, to be used for the following purposes only, to-wit: *First.* In the payment of all taxes, insurance, repairs, improvements, and all other expenses and charges of whatever nature or description which may be from time to time required in the proper management and care of said trust estate, and in the proper maintenance in first-class condition of all property and assets belonging to said trust estate.

Second. In the rebuilding of any of the buildings upon any of the real estate belonging to said trust fund whenever such rebuilding may become necessary in order to properly maintain or increase the value of such real estate. *Third.* In the erection of new buildings for, or additions to the present buildings of, the said Davenport Academy of Sciences, it being my earnest desire, however, that such building fund be allowed to accumulate until it reaches at least Fifty Thousand (\$50,000.00) Dollars, and is in any event large enough to permit the erection of a thoroughly satisfactory, handsome, and fire-proof structure, which will be in the highest degree creditable and useful to the said Academy, and to the City and State in which it is located, and which shall contain, in addition to fire-proof museum rooms, a fire-proof art gallery for the proper exhibition and preservation of works of art which shall be of genuine value and merit only. *Fourth.* After providing as large as possible a sinking fund each year for the erection of said building or buildings of the said Davenport Academy of Sciences, or after providing for the payment of any additional obligations incurred in the erection of such buildings, the remainder of said net income may be used each year, so far as necessary, for the general support and maintenance of the said Davenport Academy of Sciences, or its successor ; and after the erection of such building or buildings the whole of said income may be used if desired towards the care and maintenance of said building, museum, art gallery, and library, the support of the curator and other employees, the prosecution of the work of the Academy, the purchase of additions to its museum, library, and art gallery, and the publication of its proceedings, and of papers of scientific, or historical, value and interest, until it shall again become necessary to erect another new building for the said Davenport Academy of Sciences, when such portion as may be deemed advisable of the net income from said trust estate shall again be used towards the establishment of another building sinking fund. In the event that the said Davenport Academy of Sciences shall ever cease to exist, and shall have no successors in the City of Davenport, then and in that event I direct that the Trustees of the said Putnam Memorial Fund, to be chosen in such case by the court having probate jurisdiction in the City of Davenport, Iowa, as provided in the last will of

Mary L. D. Putnam, deceased, shall proceed to execute and carry out the purposes and intents of the trusts in this will provided, as hereinbefore expressed, as nearly as may be, and, if necessary, to found some other institution in the said City of Davenport which shall as effectually and usefully as possible accomplish such purposes and intents, or similar ones which shall be of beneficent use to the citizens of this community wherein my father and mother so long lived and labored for the public weal."

Reprinted from Volume X,
Proceedings of the Davenport Academy
of Sciences.
1907

